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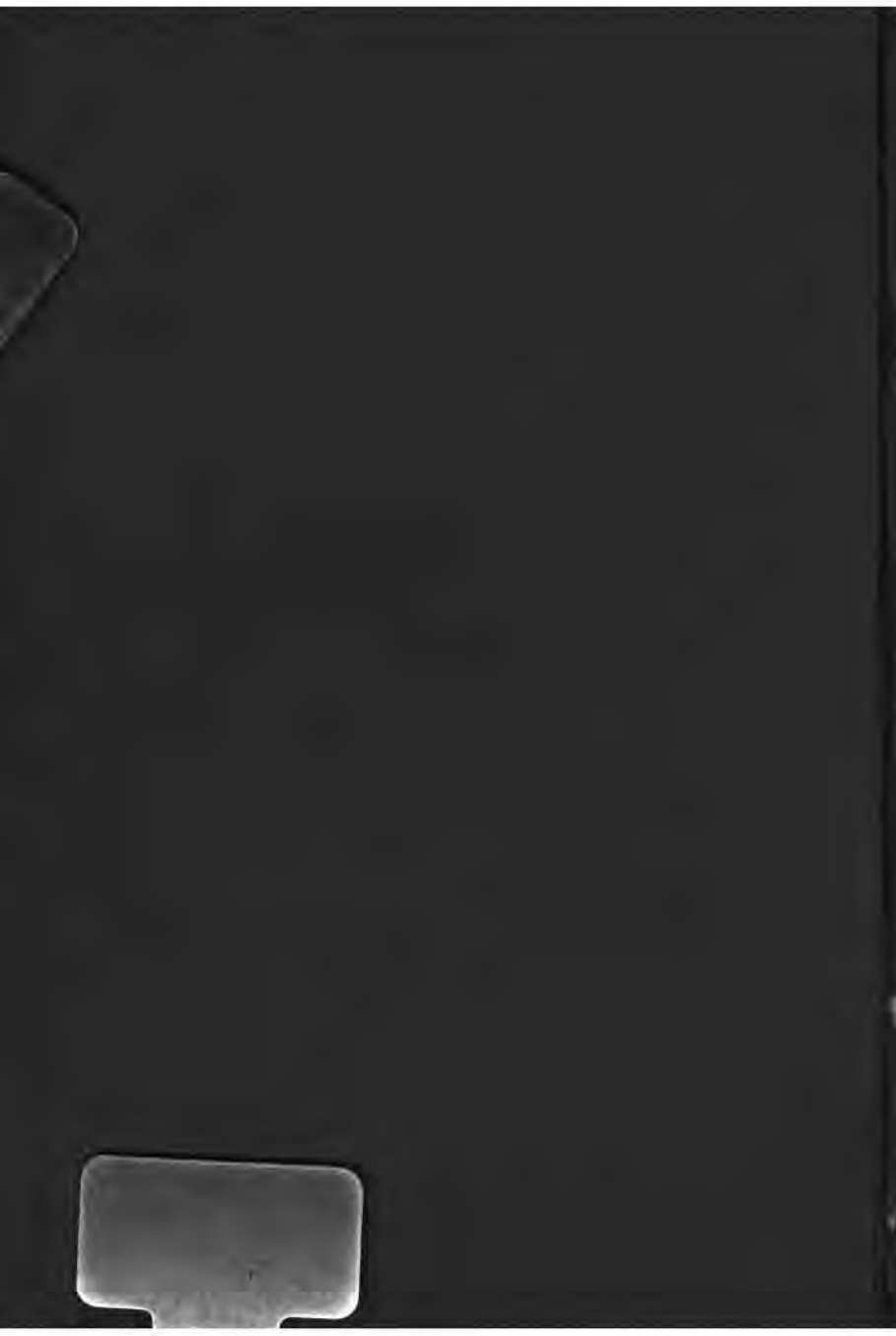
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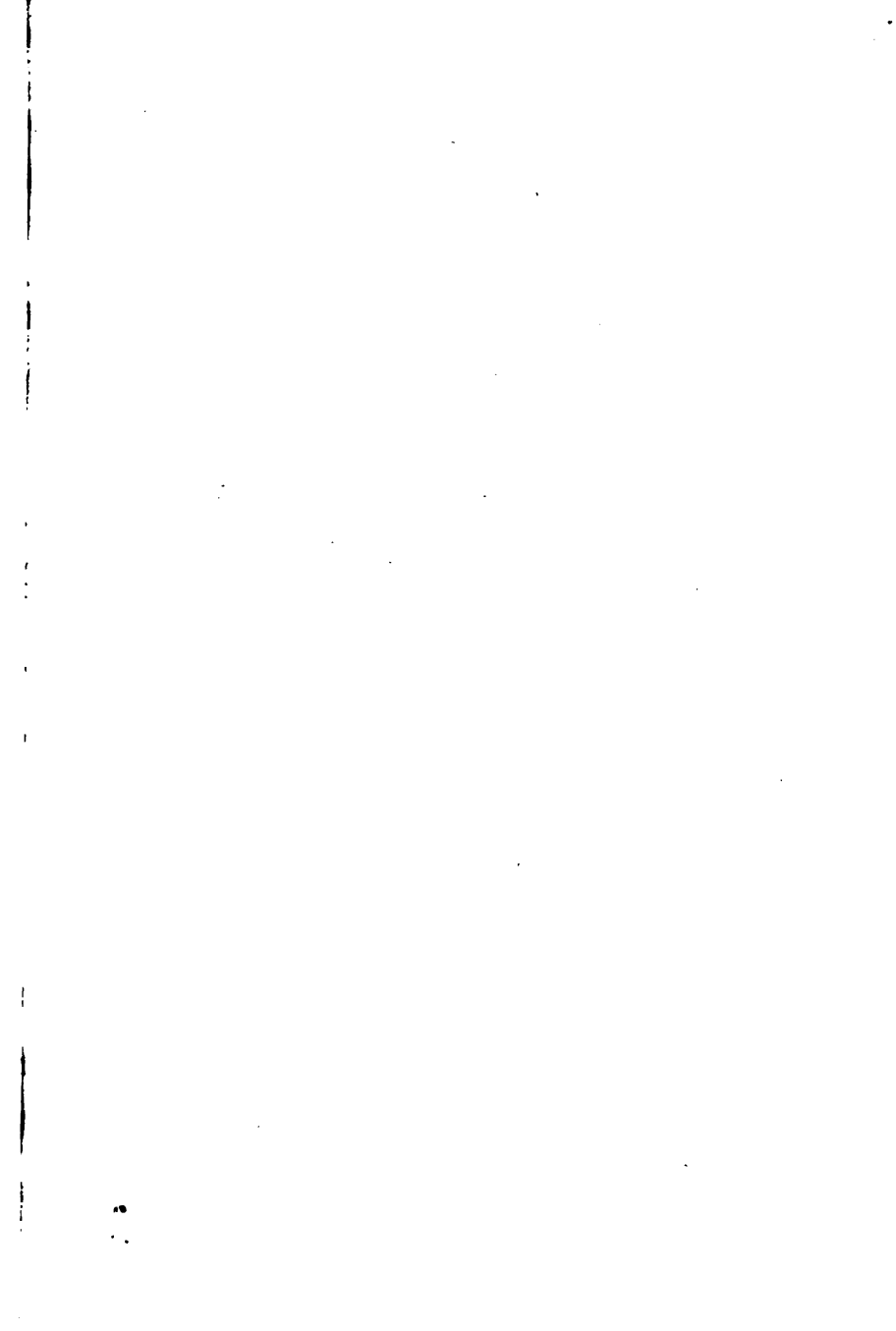
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G. R. Banff 8° 5





BANFF.

TOWN OF BANFF.

A. RAE & SON,

*Marie Hay*  
*1856*

**HISTORY OF BANFF**

**AND**

**FAMILIAR ACCOUNT**

**OF**

**ITS INHABITANTS AND BELONGINGS;**

**TO WHICH ARE ADDED,**

**CHRONICLES OF THE OLD CHURCHYARD OF BANFF.**

**BY**

**JAMES IMLACH,**

**BANFF.**

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**"HOC OLIM MEMINISSE JUVABIT."**

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**PUBLISHED BY**

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**1868.**





James V. Smith -



TO THE  
HONOURABLE THE LORD VISCOUNT MACDUFF, DUFF HOUSE.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to dedicate to your Lordship the following pages, illustrative of the history of the town of Banff, with which the noble family of Fife has been for ages so closely connected.

With what success I may have executed this work, the public will be the judges. I have undertaken it at the request of some of my fellow-townsmen, desirous, like myself, to minister to the laudable and growing taste for traditionary and historical lore, and with the view of preserving to those who come after us a faithful account, in as far as can be collected, of the rise and progress of the ancient Burgh, of the noble families who have held sway within its borders, and of the manners, occupations, and success of its inhabitants.

And, with the expression of my best thanks for the honour you have done the town of Banff, in permitting me to bring out this record under your Lordship's auspices,

I remain,

Your Lordship's

Most obedient and humble servant,

THE AUTHOR.

BANFF, May 1, 1868.



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**HISTORY OF BANFF**

**AND**

**FAMILIAR ACCOUNT**

**OF**

**ITS INHABITANTS AND BELONGINGS.**



## BANFF.

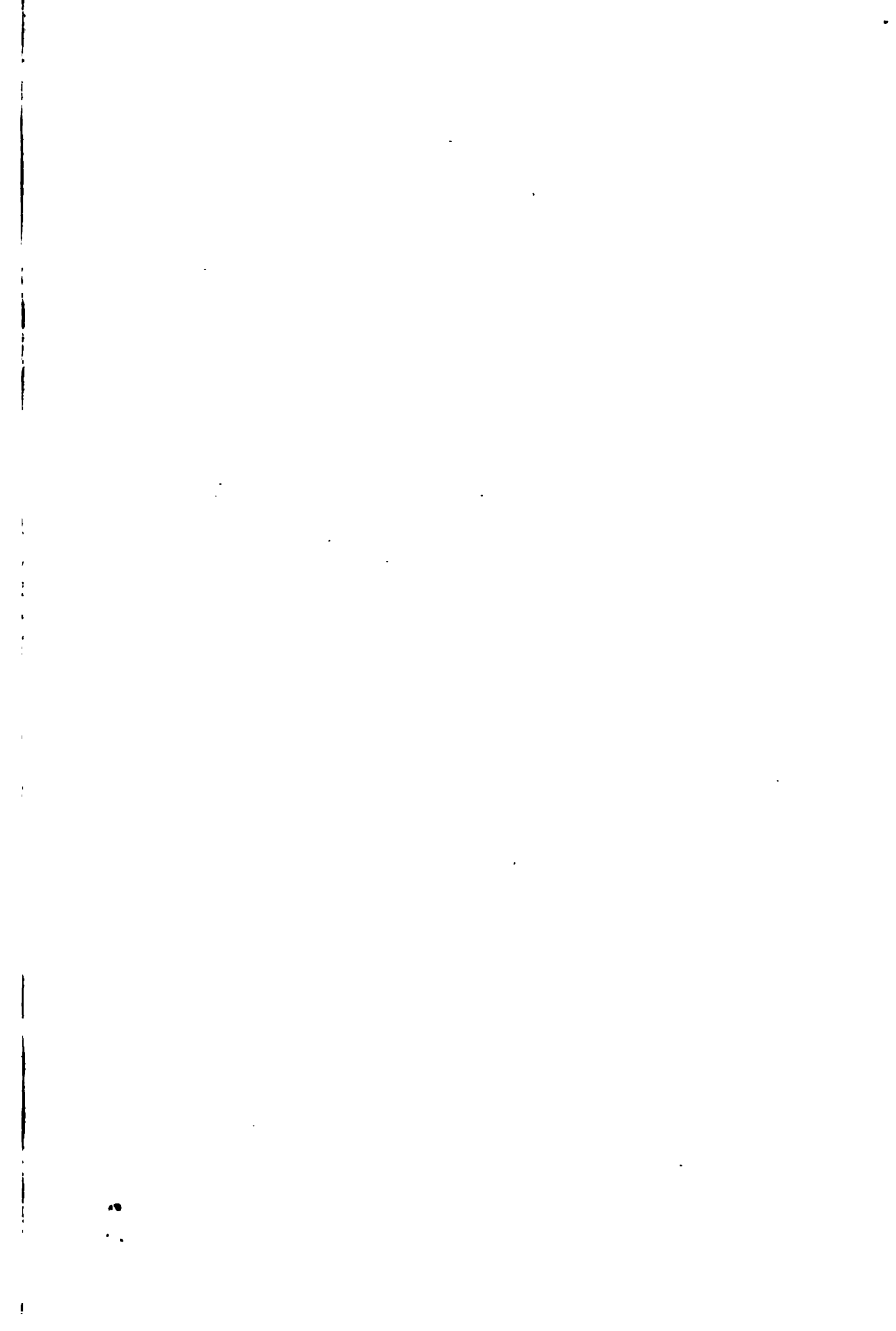
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DELIGHTFUL TOWN! how beautifully spread,  
Like a rich painting at the gazer's feet!  
Here Wealth and Taste their dwelling-place have made,  
And busy traffic gladdens every street.  
Thine Institution, elegantly neat,  
Excites the praise of every passer-by;  
Thy sacred fane, the picture to complete,  
Point their bright spires toward the peaceful sky,  
Where man should place his hopes, in better worlds on high.  
How changed hath been thy aspect, lovely gem!  
Since great Canmore became thy friend unshaken,  
And Bruce replaced thee in his diadem;  
Then all thy slumbering energies 'gan waken;  
And what a stride to elegance thou'st taken!  
By peace, by commerce, wealth, and loyalty,  
O! never be thy streets and shore forsaken!  
The democrat, O! may we never see  
Flaring his fiendish torch to smutch and smoulder thee!

BANFF, the capital of Banffshire, is a town of great antiquity, and tradition says it was at times the residence of Malcolm Canmore. At all events, it was in existence before the days of Malcolm the Maiden, who dates one of his charters from thence, and it is noticed as a Royalty since Anno 1057. Writings of Malcolm the Fourth, called the Maiden, 1152, and William the Lion, 1165, evince the certainty of this tradition. There is a charter of Malcolm the Fourth signed at Banff the eleventh year of his reign, which corresponds with 1163. It is likely, however, that in those days it was not a place of importance, and, remotely situated, did not attract much of the public notice. Indeed, it lost many of its ancient grants, but got them renewed in the reign of King Robert the Bruce, by a grant dated "apud Sconum octavo decimo, 1324," and Robert the Second, Anno 1372. The charter of William the Lion gives a toft and garden in the Burgh of Banff to his chaplain, Archibald



G.P. Banff 8° 5



## NAME.

In some ancient writings, the name of the town is given as follows—Bainiffe, Boiniffe, Bainffe, Banife, thus, most probably, drawing its origin from the word Boyn, the name of a district in which Banff is situated, and made part of the ancient thanedom of Boyne.

## TRANSACTIONS.

Beyond the various changes of property in the town and vicinity, few materials for narrative are to be found. Certain of the lands of which the parish consists seem anciently to have constituted part of two different thanedoms—that of Boyne, and that of Mowbray. The thanedom of Boyn belonged, in the time of Robert Bruce, to Randolph, Earl of Moray, and subsequently passed to the Ogilvies, a branch of the family of Deakford. The thanedom of Mowbray (which included Inchdrewer and some adjoining lands) belonged at one time to the Barclays of Towie. Walter Barclay of the family was Sheriff of Banff in 1304. The lands of Strathalvah belonged in 1414 to Alexander Lindsay, Earl of Crawford, from whom it passed to the Ogilvies of Auchterhouse. Margaret Ogilvie of this family inheriting the lands of Strathalvah and Doune, married James Stewart, Earl of Buchan, brother of James the Second; and these lands were then formed into a new thanedom, called Glendowachie, or the Glen of Dow, Banff Castle being at the same time made the messuage of the Earldom of Buchan, and thanedom of Glendowachie. The word Dow is the Gaelic word signifying black. Dowerane or Doveran is "Black Water," still the name of the river at its source. Doune or Dowan, the name of the estate on which Macduff is situated, and Dow, or Dowhaugh, on which Duff House stands, are probably the same root.

The town lands originally included all that is now called the liberties of the burgh, or burgh roods—that is, a tract extending along the whole sea-coast boundary of the parish, and from half-a-mile to two miles inland, but excepting from this the immediate demesnes of the Castle (which was a constabulary), and the Church lands. The town also possessed the river fishings for an extent of some miles, except two nets nearest the river mouth, one of which, with the sea fishing to the east, belonged to the Earl of Buchan, as holding the Thanedom of Glendowachie, the other to the Thane of Boyne. To the town belonged the sea fishing opposite to, and west of, the river mouth as far as the western boundary of the parish.

Prior to the year 1470, the town's lands and fishings seem to have been all enjoyed in a state of common. In that year, as before stated, in order to defray certain public expenses, the fishings were disposed of, and afterwards the lands went the same way.

To a comparatively late period, the town seems to have been a rather insignificant place, little more than a fishing village, an appendage to the Monastery, the Castle, and the Palace of the Lords of Banff. The streets were not paved before 1551; and, at the beginning of the succeeding century, few houses besides Lord Airlie's, Lord Banff's, and the Laird of Auchmedden's were slated. The Harbour was formerly within the river.

#### HOUSE OF AIRLIE.

The House of Airlie stood within the present park enclosure, easterly from the present entrance, indeed on the site of the flower gardens, the old trees forming the avenue to its entrance. The building was quadrangular and of considerable extent, as described to the writer by his grandfather, who occupied the half of the lodging, as it was called, in the memorable year of 1745, through the kindness of the Earl William of Fife, whose improvements and changes about the recently formed Park, and building of Duff House, he had been for some years superintending. During the Rebellion of 1745-6, the Earl William of Fife, on hearing of the arrival of the Royal army under the command of the Duke of Cumberland and General Wolfe at Aberdeen, proceeded forthwith to proffer to the Duke his services in any way that might tend to the success of the Royal cause, and despatched a special messenger to this employé, desiring him to prepare camping ground for the Royal army within the Park, and to have the House of Airlie in order for the reception of the Duke, as head-quarters for the time being, Duff House being in an unfinished state, and without furniture.

#### THE PALACE OF THE LORD BANFF.

A few old persons at the end of the last century had in remembrance seeing some large massy ruins standing on the space now occupied by the Town House and Plainstones, called the TOWERS, remains of the residence of the Lords of Banff. In some old writings, this mansion is styled a Palace, a distinction it is supposed to have acquired in consequence of having been the temporary abode of certain of the Scottish Kings, who, as appears from the date of some old charters, had visited the town, most probably on their hunting expeditions to the Royal Forest of the Boyn.

This fine old mansion was demolished by General Munro, in August 1640, as is related in the history of the Gordons, vol. 2, page 339—“Munro having marched to Banff, encamped in Sir George Ogilvie his garden (afterwards created by the King Lord Banff), enclosed with excellent stone walls, and planted with the best fruit trees then to be had, all of which they immediately hewed down, not leaving one fruit

tree, or barren, young or old, standing, and they dug up all the hedges by the root. They entirely demolished his castle, one of the finest and stateliest in the north, and carried away all the timber-work in it, leaving little standing but the ruinous walls."

When this barbarous act was told to the King ('tis reported) he said—"As for the castle, it mattered not much, money could build it up again in a short time, but it was a cruel thing to destroy the garden, which many years could not repair." Spalding also writes of the destruction of "the pleasant planting and fruitful young trees bravely growing within the Laird of Banff's orchard and garden," and of his "stately house of Banff" as "pitiful to see."

The Baron Banff, in the Peerage of Scotland, was conferred by Charles the First at Nottingham, 31st August 1642, on Sir George Ogilvy of Dunlugus, a descendent of a younger branch of the noble family of Airlie. Sir Walter Ogilvie of Auchleven, son of the High Treasurer of Scotland, married in 1437 Margaret, daughter of Sir Jo. Sinclair of Deskford and Findlater, and had two sons, Sir Jas. Ogilvie, ancestor of the Earls of Findlater, and Sir Walter Ogilvie of the Boyne, ancestor of the Lords of Banff. Sir Walter had three sons—George, ancestor of the Ogilvies of Boyne and Rothiemay; Walter Ogilvie of Dunlugus, progenitor of the Banff family; and Sir William of Strathearn.

Sir Walter Ogilvie of Dunlugus held the office of Provost of Banff. He died 29th Nov. 1558, and was buried in the Church of Banff, where his monument may be seen in the Banff Aisle. It is unnecessary for our purpose to follow the pedigree of this great family through its line of descent, beyond mentioning that the third Lord Banff was burnt to death in the Castle of Inchdrewer, about three miles from the town of Banff, under very suspicious circumstances, in November 1713. It is said that he had gone for some time to Ireland, engaged probably in some of the intrigues then carrying on in behalf of the Pretender; and it was suspected that the persons in whose charge he had left the Castle, having pillaged some of his valuable property, murdered him immediately after his return, and set his apartment on fire for the sake of concealment. He left a son, George, the fourth Lord, who died in 1718. His son George, the fifth Lord of Banff, was unfortunately drowned 29th July 1738, when bathing with Lord Deskford, afterwards sixth Earl of Findlater, after dinner at the Black Rocks, near Cullen. His title and estates were inherited by his cousin, Sir Alex. Ogilvie of Forglen, grandson of Sir Alexander Ogilvie, Lord Forglen.

The seventh Lord Banff, Sir Alexander Ogilvie, succeeded his grandfather in his estate and baronetcy in 1727, and in 1746 succeeded his cousin in the Banff Peerage. He married 2d April 1749, and had

four sons and five daughters, the eldest of whom, Jane, was married to Sir George Abercromby, Bart. of Birkenbog. The seventh Earl's eldest son having died in 1763, William, the second son, in 1771, succeeded to the title. He was an officer in the Enniskillen dragoons. He died, unmarried, at Forglen, 4th June 1803, when all his brothers being dead, without issue, his estates went to his sister, the Honble. Lady Abercromby, and the title became dormant. The Honble. Lady Abercromby died in 1838, and was succeeded by her son, Sir Robert Abercromby of Birkenbog and Forglen, Bart., who is now succeeded by his eldest son, Sir George Samuel Abercromby, Bart. of Forglen and Birkenbog.

We now come to the other great house and family connected with Banff, and long resident in it—

#### THE LAIRD OF AUCHMEDDEN'S TOWN HOUSE,

Still to be seen at the top of the Strait Path, with its large ancient gateway, surmounted by a richly carved entablature of freestone, containing the family armorial bearings in bold relief. The mansion bears evidence of having been commodious, according to the fashion of the day, and the apartments finished with considerable taste, the ceilings decorated with the family arms, &c., and we remember a large room in it used as a place of worship for the Methodists, as well as for the convocation of the ancient Society of Gardeners, who held their meetings in the large hall. There was another much larger edifice and town residence of the Lairds of Auchmedden once stood on the site of a mansion built by the late Sir George Abercromby, on the High Street, very near the Parish Church. This was supposed to be the domicile of the chief.

In 1568, George Baird being connected by marriage, and in habits of great friendship, with the Regent, Earl of Moray, received from him a disposition, heritable and irredeemable, to the lands of Auchmedden, the Regent assigning the following cause: "For many acts of utility and friendship done to me, and many sums of money given out by him in my service."

1647. James Baird was bred to the law, and became a person of high reputation in his profession. King Charles I. reposed great confidence in him, and appointed him sole Commissary of the Ecclesiastical Court of Scotland, an employment in those days of great honour and trust.

The King issued his warrant for creating him a Peer by the title of Lord Doveran, but Mr Baird died before the patent passed the seals. He was married to the sister of John Dempster, so remarkable for his disputations in the foreign schools.

1593. Andrew having received a University education in Scotland,

went over to France to finish his studies; became one of the best scholars in that kingdom, and was made a Professor of Sciences at Lyons. Gilbert, his brother, married the heiress of Ordenthives, in Banff County, anno 1578, and had by her thirty-two children.

1650. John, his eldest son, was bred to the law, and after travelling much in foreign countries, became a person of great knowledge in his profession. On the Restoration, he was created a Knight, and was soon after appointed one of the senators of the College of Justice, by the title of Lord Newbyth.

1651. Sir James Baird, High Sheriff of Banff, was much respected for his abilities, integrity, and address. In 1662, he received several marks of the King's favour; among others, the following honourable declaration and acquittal, for acting in the above office during the usurpation:—

"Whereas we are certainly informed that the office of the Sheriffship of our County of Banff was, by the late Usurper, put upon our lovite, Sir James Baird of Auchmedden; that he only exercised the samen during the year of the great transactions of our Restoration, wherein, as the said Sir James was contributive and active, so we are fully satisfied of his conduct and loyal affection to our Person and Government, and therefore declare him free of all censure, &c., &c.

"Supersigned Charles, and subscribed Lauderdale."

Sir James was employed by the Duke of Lauderdale to draw up a rational plan for the union of the two kingdoms. He accordingly prepared such plan, which was so highly approved of that the King became desirous of carrying it into execution; but it is believed the Duke of Lauderdale, Secretary of State for Scotland, was not a sincere friend to the measure.

In our Old Churchyard here, I find the following inscription on the monument to the Bairds of Auchmedden in Latin:—

"AN. DOM. 1638.

"Positum a Georgio Baird de Auchmedden, Proposito Burgi de Banff, in honore Dei, et in memoria Prædecessori quorum corpora, in die resurrectionis, hic sepulta jacent."

Which may be translated—

Erected by George Baird of Auchmedden, Provost of Banff, to the honour of God, and in memory of his ancestors, whose bodies lie buried here till the Resurrection Day.

Being one of the Magistrates of Banff, on a late occasion, when the Old Burying-ground was being better enclosed for the preservation of its ancient monuments, I applied to the present representatives of this old Banff family, now resident near Edinburgh, for their subscriptions to carry out this laudable work, which was at once responded to by contributions from Sir David Baird of New Byth, Gilmorton, and Sir James Gairdener Baird, Edmonston House, Edinburgh; and the present Laird of Auchmedden, James Baird, Esq.

There is a tradition that, as King William the Lion was hunting in one of the south-west counties, and straggling from his attendants, he was alarmed at the approach of a wild bear, and called for assistance. Upon this, a gentleman of the name of Baird, who had followed the King, came up, and had the good fortune to slay the bear, for which signal service the King made a considerable addition to the lands he had formerly given him, and assigned him for his coat of arms a bear passant, and for his motto, "Dominus fecit." It is further said that one foot of the animal was brought north by an ancestor of Baird of Ordenvives, and is still preserved. The arms and motto are to be seen on the ancient monument, already noticed, in Banff Churchyard.

The other celebrated old building within the precincts of the burgh was

#### BANFF CASTLE,

which was a Constabulary of old, such as Cullen, Elgin, Forres, and Nairn. It was a place of strength, and said to be occasionally the residence of the King, when visiting this part of his dominions. In His Majesty's absence, it was the messuage of the Thane, Sheriff, or Constable, and the seat where justice was administered.

It appears by the public records that Walter de Leslie obtained a charter, dated at Perth, 1364, of many lands, among others of Blairshinnoch, for furnishing to the King a soldier to attend him at three head courts—"Apud castrum de Banffe." The office of Sheriff continued annexed to the Castle till 1636, when the Sherifffdom was resigned by the Earl of Buchan to Sir James Baird of Auchmedden, and the Castle to Robert Sharp, Esq., Sheriff Clerk of Banff, elder brother of the famous Archbishop, the father, Wm. Sharp, having had it in feu.

The Archbishop was murdered in 1679, and after Robert's death the Castle descended to his brother's son, Sir William Sharp of Stonyhill, who disposed the Castle to the then Provost of Banff, the Laird of Kininvie, from whom the family of Findlater afterwards derived their right of property, whose heir, Lord Seafield, still holds it. Lord Seafield, it may be noted, was descended from the family of Auchterhouse, who formerly held the Castle.

The Castle and adjoining grounds hold of the Crown blench, and pay neither cess, stipend, or any burden whatever. The Sheriff's office was resigned in 1681, by Baird of Auchmedden, to the Earl of Findlater, who enjoyed the right till the abolition of heritable jurisdiction in 1748.

All that now remains of the ancient Castle is part of the outer wall, and the moat and intrenchments are still visible. The part of the old building where Archbishop Sharp was born was pulled down about the



year 1820. Some remains of the old building, with inscriptions relative to the Sharp family, have been built into the new inclosed wall of the churchyard at the burial ground of the family.

Near to the Castle was situated the Chaplainry of the Holy Rood, or Sancti Crucis, consecrated in commemoration of our Saviour's sufferings. At what period, or by what founder, this Chapel was erected, no information can be derived. From an old Register of the Town Council, 1544, we learn that this religious house lay within the liberties of the burgh, and comprehended "*terras piscatorias vocatas vulgariter*" —Fisher Lands, *ex occidentati partibus montis castri de Banff*.

The Earl of Findlater, a nobleman of singular and extraordinary merit, resided for many years in the Castle of Banff. There have been few men to whom his country has been so deeply indebted, considered in the character of a peaceful patriot, as to James Sixth Earl of Findlater and Third of Seafield, born 1714. To that distinguished individual belonged the exclusive merit of introducing into the North of Scotland those improvements in agriculture, manufactures, and all kinds of useful industry, which, in the space of a few years, raised his country from a state of semi-barbarism to a degree of civilisation equal to that of the most improved districts of the South.

His Lordship completed an excellent education by foreign travel, which eminently qualified him for the distinguished part he was destined to act in the field of philanthropy. In 1754, he was appointed one of the Commissioners of Customs in Scotland, and in 1765 was constituted one of the Lords of Police. He was one of the Trustees for the improvement of Fisheries and Manufactures, and for the management of the forfeited estates in Scotland, and attended to the business of these Boards with the most exemplary zeal and assiduity. In these truly patriotic pursuits he succeeded to an extent altogether unparalleled in the annals of industrial improvements, and his name is still a household word over the north of Scotland, as one of the most substantial benefactors of his species. His Lordship, during his residence in Banff Castle, having taken one of his farms into his own possession, determined to cultivate it after the most approved methods then known in the kingdom. With this view he engaged an active and experienced overseer from England, to whom he devolved the management of this farm of South Colleonard, and in a few years improved it and the Hills of Boyndie in a style and manner then unknown in this country. The first of these lies on a gentle declivity, opening to the south, and commands a variety of pleasing prospects. The fields are laid out with much taste, enclosed and subdivided with hedgerows and belts of thriving wood. It bears a striking resemblance to a fine English farm.

The present Castle, or modern mansion, was built by this noble-

man, and, at a distance, has much the appearance of a French chateau. There are a few very good rooms in it, but the accommodation is quite inadequate to meet the requirements of a nobleman's household; and we believe it was built as a jointure-residence, in case of such being desired, for any female member of the family. Artists were brought from Italy to paint the beautiful frescoes which, I remember, ornamented the walls and roof of the drawing-room about the close of the last century, at which period the rooms and halls in the old Castle were entire, and hung with beautifully executed tapestry.

This was long the residence of the late Countess Dowager of Findlater, a lady not more distinguished by her high rank than by the unassuming and unwearied benevolence which adorned her character. She had, indeed,

A tear for pity, and a hand  
Open as day to melting charity.

#### ANTIQUITIES.

For a description of the ancient burgh of Banff, in the year of our Lord 1642, we are indebted to Dr Arthur Johnstoun for the following, one of the epigrams which he wrote on several of the Royal Burghs:—

Banff, near the ocean, doth thyself confess  
In bulk then Trica, or Hypcpe less,  
Yet art acknowledg'd by the neighbouring lands  
To be their Regent, and the Boyne commands;  
Nor cornes nor pastures wanting are to thee,  
Nor stately ships which do launch forth to sea.  
Thou art adorned by a Temple great,  
And by the Muses and Astrea's seat.  
A place is near which was a field untill  
Our ancestors did raise it to an hill.  
Hither the sea flows up to Diveron's flood,  
A stately castle also on it stood,  
A warlick fort, its rubbish yet appears,  
The yest's consum'd by time, which all things wears.  
The buildings\*, which join to the mercat-place,  
The Parian pillars which uphold their grace;  
Strong for defence, and specious to the sight,  
In them doth dwell a noble ancient knight.  
A vertuous people doth inhabit thee!  
And this, O Banff! thy greatest praise must be.

Beyond the ancient buildings we have described, and their concomitants, few remains of antiquity are to be found. Two cells of the Carmelite monastery were to be seen in the beginning of this century on the south side of the old burying-ground, and the great bell of St Mary's Church was suspended in a wooden spire on the top of one of these cells; they have now given place to modern houses. Not far from the

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\* Castle Pantoun, town-house of Sir James Innes of Muirfold.

site of these, a small vaulted chamber, supposed to have been a sleeping cell, now affords accommodation to the boiler of a steam engine employed at the foundry. Some arches, apparently parts of similar cells, yet exist behind the Royal Oak Hotel. This range of cells seemed to have terminated the buildings of the monastery to the east, unless that an hospital, of which there is a tradition as existing about the site of the present Bede House, may have formed one of its appurtenances. The garden ground of the monastery, with its chapels, and other dependencies, are supposed to have extended beyond the present southern limits of the town, and as far as the site of the old House of Airly, in the Duff House flower garden. The precise time when this religious house was first established here is uncertain. It is supposed to have been as early as the time of Malcolm the Maiden, or even of Malcolm Canmore. The charter granted by King Robert Bruce evidently implies that it had existed, probably long before, the date of that instrument, since it goes merely to confirm—"Deo, beato Mario Virgini, et religiosis viris Fratribus de Monte Carmele, capellam beato Mario juxta Villam de Banff," &c. It is not perfectly clear whether the chapel of the blessed Mary, here mentioned, was one on the present site of Lord Fife's mausoleum, or the old church (formerly called St Mary's) in the burying-ground in the town.

At the time of the Reformation, it is well known that many of the religious houses, foreseeing the difficulty of preserving their possessions, adopted the plan of feuing them out at a low consideration to powerful laymen; and a ready purchaser presented himself to the Carmelite brethren in the person of Sir Walter Ogilvie of Dunlugas, who, it appears, had a rare taste for the acquisition of property. His tombstone is one of the oldest monuments in the old Kirkyard. "The wonder is that he did not contrive to get all the Kirkyard to himself." In a charter dated 1554, the Friars made over to Sir Walter, the Dawhaugh (on which Duff House is built) and its pertinents, but the grant makes no mention of the houses and gardens of the monastery in the town. It appears, however, that he subsequently got possession of the whole. Through these gardens was formed, in the year 1770, the street called Bridge Street, now one of the principal thoroughfares of the town.

The rest of the Carmelite lands, extending southward from the town, were successively conveyed (in 1680) to Lord Airly, and (in 1690) to Lord Fife.

Another chapel, dedicated to St Thomas the Apostle, stood somewhere between the sites of the present Parish Church and St Andrew's Chapel. Names still existing—St Catherine Street, Carmelite Street, and St Ninian's—evinced the once consecrated character of various localities in the town.

It is known that the Knights Templars anciently held property in the burgh, and a house is still remembered in the Water Path which bore the iron cross, the usual token by which the fraternity marked their possessions.

A short distance from the town is a place called "Spittal Mire," supposed a corruption of "Hospital Mire," perhaps from a house of that description belonging to the Templars. It appears that when, on the abolition of the order of Knights St John, who succeeded the Templars, their possessions were erected into a Lordship in favour of Sir James Sandilands in 1563. Many parts of these possessions were found to be so much scattered, and let for such insignificant rents or feu-duties, as not to be worth the attention of the new proprietors; and in this way, probably, the possessions of the Templars in this town have passed at length into common burgage tenures.

#### HISTORICAL EVENTS.

The town has never been connected with any historical event of much importance; but some visitations to which it was subjected in the troublous times of old have no doubt been reckoned of sufficient importance by the inhabitants. Spalding relates that in April 1644—"There went down to Banff, the Lairds of Gight, Newton, and Ardlogie, with a party of forty horse and musketeers, brave gentlemen. They took in the town without contradiction, meddled with the keys of the tolbooth, took free quarters, and plundered all the arms they could get, buff coats, pikes, swords, pistols, yea, and money also.

"They took frae Alexander Winchester, one of the Bailies, 700 merks, whilk he had as one of the Collectors of the taxations and loan silver of Banff; and siklike took frae him 400 merks of his own gear; and frae Shand of Down, they plundered some monies. They caused their Baillies (for Douglas, their Provost, had fled) and townsmen subscribe and swear the band, denying the last covenant, and obliging them to follow the King, and his deputies in his service, as ye have before. They took also frae George Geddes, another of the said four Collectors, 500 merks of taxation and loan silver, and Gight keept all the monies."

It would appear the Government had taken cognizance of this spoilzie, from the following:—"Now the Parliament goes on against Sir George Gordon of Gight, and John Gordon, his brother, who was also had over with him to Edinburgh. He is accused upon divers matters, but denies all; he is accused upon the plundering of Banff, whilk he denied, except some monies he received in borrowing, upon promise of restitution. It is referred to his oath; he depones conform, and subscribes his deposition. He craftily summoned over witnesses out of

Banff to prove him perjured, and thereby guilty of death. At last his process is continued to the 8 January 1645, that the Parliament should sit down, through whilk delay he escaped death or prison."

Another attack on the town and lieges of a still more serious nature took place in the following year, 1645. The Marquis of Montrose seems to have bethought himself of negotiating "a loan" among the capitalists of Banff, doubtless on the same sort of terms, as to interest and security, as erstwhile in use with that eminent financier, the Laird of Gight. It happened this way—"Montrose marches to Banff, plunders the same pitifully, no merchant's goods or gear left; they saw no man in the street but was stripped naked to the skin. Some two or three houses were burnt, but no blood shed, and so they left Banff."—*Spalding*.

The visitation of the Laird of Gight and the other "brave gentlemen" seems to have been mere child's play to this. There is yet extant a "Humble Petition of the Distresst Burgh of Banff," made Unto the Honourable and High Court of Parliament, in 1647, and which "Humbly Sheweth, That for our zealous affection, adherence, and concurrence to the covenant, and extending our utmost powers for prosecuting the ends of that same, we have not only spent one great part of our means in keeping of the dyets that were ever in the north, as we were desyrit be those who were authorised to require us yearly, but likewise at last our hail means, both horses, nolt, cloaths, corn, and merchant guides, with our buiths, none whereof having been got removit, were all spolizit and away taken by James Graham, and his most cruel, unnatural, and merciless associates, in the month of March 1645; our plenishing of timber all burnt, with some of the houses in our town, so that nothing was left unto us except the bare walls of the houses; and thereafter, when we were in small and mean condition, we were striving to live thereafter be the assistance of our well affected friends and countrymen, there did still fall upon us, ever as they had occasion to be in the country, and never was we free either of them, in special the name of Gordon Hart-hill, Lodvick Lindsay, or Captain Mortimer, or otherways we were not free of our own forces, the one coming in upon us as the others were removit, even until this day, as is notoriously known," &c. "So that now our condition is so miserable that we have nothing thereby either to labour our land, or use our trade, and dare not any of us frequent or haunt any burges by reason of our debts restand be us for the guides that were taken from us, for fear of the warding of our persons."

The supplication adds, after stating the burgh had debts of nearly 9000 merks, that "all the hail foresaid sums having been spent upon Commissioners to the General Assemblies and Parliaments for outering of our propotion of our levies to England, and for the expenses of mayn

guards and watches, which General Middleton, Colonel Montgomery, Col. Home and Lockart, and the foot regiments of the Earl of Lowthian and Lairds of Lawers and Buchanan, were at several occasions quartered in our town, and sundry sums of money taken from us be several officers, to hold us free of quartering of horses when our corns were growing on the ground, being even threatened whether they had orders or not, with plundering of our houses, and destroying of our corns. And in the concluding petition for relief great stress is laid "on our kirk, tolbeuith, scholl, ferryboat, and all being demolisht and broken down, and that we have no kind of subsistence, neither for ourselves to live, neither to repair these common works," adding a shrewd hint to lay the saddle on the right horse—"That your Honours will give us warrant from this Parliament to be reparit thereof out of the first end of any sums that may be exactit, either by fining or borrowing, from any of these within our own schyre, or about our ain town, who have been actually airt and pairt, or personally assistant to the away taking of our said means, or any part thereof, in this bygan time, and quhn one or all of them are partly lying in our toun in a worse disposition nor ever they were of before."

The copy is endorsed "Supplicatione, Toun of Banff Bodies 1647."

The petitioners obtained a grant of their own excise as a means of relief.

Another marked event by the burghers of the good town, and long had in remembrance, was the Duke of Cumberland's troops (as I before noticed) passing through Banff on their way to Culloden, 10th Novr. 1746, and of their being encamped in the grounds about Duff House, while it was in progress of being finished. The only exploits by which they signalised their visit were the destruction of the Episcopal Chapel, and the execucion, or rather murder, of a poor man named Alexander Kinnaird, from Marnoch.

Being found with a stick notched, or seen notching it, in a way supposed to take account of the boats passing the river with troops, he was taken for a spy, and immediately hanged on a tree near the Colly Road.

#### A WARLIKE VISITATION

Befel the good town in the year 1759—which may interest the living denizen as savouring of the terrors of war and its perturbations—when Thurot, a French commodore, appeared off the coast, with intentions which were at once conjectured to bode no good. The Provost, wisely considering this an emergency in which the united wisdom of the community should be called to exercise itself in the most solemn mode, forthwith convened a head court of the burgh. Here, however, dumb

consternation was found to prevail, every one looking unutterable things. Luckily, in this prostration of the faculties of the "whole heritors, feuars, burgesses, and other inhabitants liable to stint and taxation," who composed the court, there was one person capable of forming a determination, and this, as became his dignity, was the Provost. His opinion being anxiously called for, was given with instant promptitude in favour of "running away." A somewhat less decisive course, however, found favour in the eyes of one of the Bailies, namely, that an endeavour should be made to compound with the foe for a certain sum; but to this the Provost objected, that, as such a sum as would be accepted could not be immediately raised, hostages would inevitably be required, and who was to be thought worthy of this distinction? This difficulty appeared to the Court a mere bagatelle. "The Provost" was at once shouted from all quarters; to the Chief Magistrate, as of right, the honour in question was tendered by acclamation, but by that dignitary most resolutely declined, and cordially offered to the Bailie, out of whose proposal the occasion for conferring it had originated. Fortunately, in the course of the deliberations, or at least before the enemy had opportunity to secure any contributions, a means of deliverance more effectual than any which burghal wisdom had succeeded in devising, arose in the shape of a severe storm, which compelled the marauder to take his departure, leaving his anchors behind him for a memorial, some of which have been since found.

Subsequently to this, the idea seems to have occurred that a few eighteen and twenty-four pound guns, planted on the heights above the harbour, might facilitate any negotiations, for which occasion might chance to arise, with visitors of this description, and accordingly the town expended the sum of £400 in constructing a battery—guns at the time being furnished by Government, and certain of the citizens trained to work them. The battery was dismantled of its guns after the peace of 1815.

#### MURDER OF A CITIZEN.

Some years after this period, a shocking outrage occurred, in consequence of the Government thinking it necessary to have the North country pretty much under the surveillance of the military, to overawe those spirits who still cherished a warm feeling for the exiled Prince. In our town, but few adherents remained to breathe even an aspiration for his return; still, corps of soldiers were passing to and fro, and occasionally quartering in the town. At such a time, a set of the officers had been carousing in the principal Hotel, the "Black Bull," which stood opposite to the house presently occupied by Mr Leask, and built in the year 1745 by Mr William Robinson or Robertson, grand uncle to

the late Provost G. G. Robinson, and inhabited by him and his numerous family at the time. Mr R. had been out dining at a friend's house, and, on returning to his house in the evening, found these officers fully occupied in soft dalliance inside the court with his attractive nursery-maids, which raised the gentleman's ire, probably a little elevated by the good cheer and company which he had left. This exuberance he, no doubt, let loose at the redcoats, who, it appears, were too ready to return fire, and a scuffle ensued. One of the officers had got *hors de combat* somehow, and his friend, writhing at the insult, ran across the street for his sword, and being inflated with wine and frenzy, ran the good gentleman of the house through the body, when he was carried into his sorrowing wife and family.

This murderous outrage caused a great sensation, and was taken warmly up by the authorities of the town, who did not fail to represent the shocking deed in all its melancholy details, and the irremediable loss to the bereaved lady and family. Little sympathy, and as little redress, was accorded by the military powers, as decided measures had to be studied in these times, when many of the disaffected were still in league against the Government.

It is matter of interest to look back on the fate of this family under a watchful Providence. The only son in after years became George Robinson of Clairmiston, near Edinburgh, and a distinguished lawyer. The ladies got married to some of the most respectable gentlemen in our neighbourhood. One became wife to the Laird of Montblair, General Hay, who fell in the Battle of Orthes, fighting under the Great Duke in the Spanish War; the second was married to the Laird of Auchry, Mr Cummine of that ilk; another was Mrs Rose of Montcoffer; the fourth was Mrs Dr Law of Edinburgh; and the last was the wife of Mr Dugald, a London barrister. So! the Almighty careth for the widow and the fatherless!

#### HIGHLAND RAIDER.

In the beginning of the last century, it was well known our Highlands were infested by a set of lawless freebooters, who neither feared God nor man, and who mostly subsisted by plundering their neighbours, and making raids in the low countries, from which they carried off herds of cattle, &c., and lived with their associates at free quarters. We cannot have a better description of such characters than we find in Sir Walter Scott's "Rob Roy," whom tradition represents as having occasionally associated with and patronised the renowned Macpherson of the county of Banff, whose fate has been the subject of song, and proved cause for depriving the Burgh of Banff of "the power of Pot and Gallows." As we have it chronicled, the marauder's pardon was but a



short distance from the town when he was swung from the gallows-tree on the top of our Gallowhill!

It is said James Macpherson was from an illegitimate branch of the family of Invereahie, in Inverness-shire. His mother was a gipsy. He was reared at his father's house, until the death of the latter, when he was taken under his mother's charge, and acquired the habits and pursuits of the race to which he belonged. He was remarkable not only for strength and beauty of person, but for the degree of talent which he displayed for certain mental accomplishments, for the cultivation of which his mode of life might seem to have afforded little opportunity. Few of his poetical productions are now in existence, except his Lament, but he seems to have been celebrated, during his lifetime, for his skill on the violin. It is said, too, that his conduct often afforded evidence of his being imbued with those feelings of generosity and pity which the fine arts are supposed to generate; and it does not appear that any cruel or atrocious act was ever laid to his charge.

After several escapes from justice, to which he had made himself obnoxious by his lawless habits, he was eventually apprehended by the Laird of Braco, the Lord Braco of Kilbryde, and some of his followers, at a Keith market, Braco himself being the first to seize upon him. So desperate, however, is said to have been his resistance, aided by one of the name of Roy, that it was only by blankets being thrown over his head from the windows above that his numerous assailants could obtain any advantage over him. He was thus compelled to fly, and reached the gable of a church; here, parrying the attack of his enemies, he fell over a gravestone, when he was secured, and lodged in the jail of Banff. The sword and target of the Rob Roy of the North, as he was called, are still in the possession of Lord Fife (Braco's descendant), at Duff House, and is such a formidable weapon as only a powerful man could wield.

Macpherson was brought to trial, along with his associates, before the Sheriff of Banff, on the 7th Nov. 1700. In an interlocutor, the Sheriff sustains himself judge, and "finds the libel relevant of the whole accused being knoune habit and repute to be Egipcians and wagabonds, and keeping ye mercats in yr ordinaire manner of thieving and purse-cutting, or guiltie of the rest of the crimes of theft, and masterfull bangs-tree and oppression, to infer the punishment libelled, and admits the same to the knowledge of ane assayze." After the jury were impannelled, "the Sheriff" (so it is in the record) "ordains the pannels, for the satisfaction of the assizers, to rehearse the Lord's Prayer," &c., but it is not stated how far the prisoners either did or could afford this "satisfaction."

Twenty-one witnesses were then examined, fourteen of whom were able to sign their depositions. Most of them deponed that the panels

were by habit and repute Egyptians, and that they went about armed in bands, some adding that they spoke a language which the deponents did not understand, and "which was not Irish." But otherwise few well defined or very serious charges appear in evidence against the accused individually. It is unnecessary here to narrate the individual evidence of the witnesses examined, although it presents a curious picture of the manners of the time and district.

The evidence, however, being gone into at great length, the Jury, of which James Gordon of Ardmellie was Chancellor, gave in a verdict finding the panels to be "fylled, culpable, and conuict" of the crimes lybelled; whereupon the Sheriff pronounced the following sentence:—

"For sæ meikle as you, Jas. M'Pherson and James Gordon, panels, are found guilty, by ane verdict of ane assyse, to be knoune, holden and repute, to be Egyptians and vagabonds, and oppressors of his Matie's free lieges, in ane bangstrie manner, and going up and doun the country armed, and keeping the mercats in an hostile manner, and that you are thieves, and receptors of thieves, and that you are of *pes-sima fama*. Therefore, the Sheriff-Depute of Banff, and I, in his name, adjudges and decernes you, the sds James M'Pherson and James Gordon, to be taken from the cross of Banff, from the tolbooth yrof, where you now lye, and yr upon ane gibbet to be erected, to be hanged by the neck to the death, by the hand of the common executioner, upon Friday next, being the 16 Nover. instant, being a public weeklie mercat-day, betwixt the hours of two and three in the afternoon; and, in the meantime, declares their hail movale goods and gear to be escheat and fubrought to the fiscall, for his Matie's interest, and recommends this sentence to be seen put in executione by the Magistrats of Banff.

(Signed)

"NICOLAS DUNBAR.

"And, further, the Sheriff-Depute ordains ye three young rogues, now in prison, that this day yr ears be cropt, publiclie scourged throu the toune of Banff, and burnt upon the cheek by the executioner, and banished this shyre for ever, under paine of death.

(Signed)

"NICOLAS DUNBAR."

It appears that M'Pherson alone of the party was executed, and performed at the foot of the gallows, on the Gallowhill of Banff, the "Rant" and pibroch of his own composition, and then made offer of his violin to any one who would receive it as a remembrance of him. The gift being declined, he broke the violin, and threw the fragments into the grave prepared for his body.

At the time the Waverley Novels were issuing from the press, and delighting the reading world, I was applied to by a friend of Sir Walter

Soott's to collect any memorials bearing on the trial and untimely fate of poor M'Pherson. In consequence, I had the whole of this trial, with the examination of the witnesses, copied from the town's records, and was successful in collecting many traditions regarding M'Pherson's wild life, and, in some cases, generous conduct to the poor in the upper part of Banffshire, with not a few poems and letters commemorative of his exploits and associations with the Rob Roy of Sir Walter. All these I had put in shape for transmission to Edinburgh, when a Banff denizen, rather a littérateur, who had given me some assistance in making this collection, begged for a look of the particulars. Not dreading any perversion of the favour, I indulged him; and in the following week I had the mortification of seeing it announced in one of the public prints that the great Unknown was about to favour the world with another novel, the subject being the Rob Roy of the North—M'Pherson!

Meantime, while the records were in transitu, Sir W.'s eye had caught the announcement, and, when they made their appearance, they were discarded with contempt, and returned from whence they came. I afterwards handed the whole to the late Earl of Fife, as an accompaniment to the freebooter's sword, which is still to be seen in the armoury at Duff House.

Thus our locality lost the chance of being handed down to posterity as the scene of adventure, and the character and manners of our people brought out in amusing guise by the magic pen of the incomparable bard, as I have no doubt he would have paid a visit to this quarter, knowing he would have found a pleasant associate at the time in his friend the late Earl of Fife.

At this time, I had M'Pherson's remains disinterred at the foot of the gallows-tree where he suffered, and a medical friend present said that the bones were those of a strong and powerful man. So ends the story of the ill-fated freebooter.

The last hanging affair in this quarter handed down to us arose out of a burglary enacted in the town about the year 1780, in the banking office of Mr James Imlach, in the large house built by the Trades opposite the Town-house. During the night, the burglar had found his way into the office by forcing open the outside shutter, and cutting out a large pane of glass sufficient to admit his person. Not finding the bank-safe in the outer apartment, he contented himself by breaking into the desks, and finding a pocket-book full of bank-notes, he decamped. A "hue and cry" arose in the morning on the discovery of the robbery, but small trace was found of the delinquent—sufficient, however, to induce a valiant Captain of Volunteers to offer his services in the cause, and off he started, well mounted, with a brace of pistols in his belt. Pursuing his journey towards Keith, where the scent lay, and ascertaining from a cottager in the outskirts of the town that a person

answering the description of the reynard in fault, our gallant sportsman renewed the chase, and sighting, as he supposed, the object of his pursuit as he was nearing the cover of the woods of Knockando, and at same time noticing the game wheel about, and aware of pursuit, he plunged into the wood. The Captain coming up, leapt from his horse, throwing the bridle over a tree, and gave chase. Being quite fresh, he was soon within shot of the enemy, and let him understand if he did not surrender he would shoot him. Confronted, the fellow denied the charge of robbing the bank in Banff, but the Captain, noticing a protuberance in his vestment, as if from a concealed book, at once tore it open, and seized the morocco pocket-book, exclaiming "Oh, there it is; this is what I want! You are my prisoner!" pulling out his pistol, and giving the order for quick march to the spot where he had left his charger. The culprit in this order was marched to Keith, afterwards tried at Aberdeen, found guilty, and there suffered the last penalty of the law, the power of hanging having departed from our Royal Burgh since the too hasty finish of poor M'Pherson.

Having now ransacked all that we find of most interest in regard to the antiquity of the town—its rights, its possessions, alienations of its property, &c., and the histories of some of its leading men—let us now take a peep at

#### THE MODERN TOWN OF BANFF.

And, as a preamble, I shall present a picture of it as I pencilled it some few years ago, for a place in a popular Encyclopædia under publication; and follow that up by dealing with its intrinsic merits as a desirable place of residence, from its situation, climate, society, and many other attractions, which cannot well be taken in at a bird's-eye view.

As a small town, it is unquestionably one of the most attractive in the North of Scotland, and its natural situation beautiful—with its south-eastern exposure on a gentle slope, the wide blue sea on its north, and the river Deveron on the east, the richly wooded country on the south, with the magnificent mansion or palace of the Earl of Fife, with its romantic and extensive park and gardens, and valuable collection of ancient and modern paintings, it may well vie with any as to situation. Nor has its citizens failed to do their part. Its streets are well and regularly laid out, and adorned with tasteful buildings; and a great addition has lately been made towards its extension by the Earl of Seafield feuing off the lands which connect the town with the Seatown, thereby giving sites for modern edifices and villas; and it has been remarked by strangers that the town is a perfect model of cleanliness and neatness, being all well paved, and strictly looked after by an active police.

To add to the comfort of the many strangers who are attracted to the quarter on business, and for restoration to health and recreation in summer, by the use of the chalybeate waters and baths, there is the Fife Arms Hotel, than which there is not a more commodious and comfortable north of Edinburgh; while excellent private lodging is otherwise to be found in the town.

Banff Castle, which stands in the middle of the town, is a plain modern building, belonging to the Earl of Seafield. Few dwellings can boast of finer prospects. The ancient Castle, on the site of which the present is built, was held of the King in simple ward, without the jurisdiction of the burgh. It had walls of strength, and was surrounded by a moat, still remaining. It was in this Castle that the celebrated Archbishop Sharp was born, May 1618, who fell a tragical victim to religious fury, being assassinated on Magnus Moor, in 1679, by the Covenanters. Among the buildings in the town are the Town-house, a handsome edifice, surmounted by a spire 100 feet high; a Prison, built after the Government model; a large Parish Church, with very elegant spire; a commodious, substantial, and tasteful Free Church; a neat mediæval Episcopal Church, Parsonage, and School for 100 pupils; United Presbyterian, Independent, Methodist, Anabaptist, and Roman Catholic places of worship; a Mason Lodge, of tasteful architecture; the Academy, a modern edifice of great extent and beauty, of Grecian design, capable of containing 400 pupils, to which there is an extensive Museum attached. There are also Seminaries for young ladies, admirably conducted, with English and foreign teachers; several Libraries and Reading-rooms; Gas Work and Water Company; six branch banking establishments, and a Savings Bank; public Baths, hot and cold sea water; Hotels; Custom House, with Collector, &c. At one period, Banff carried on a considerable manufactory of stockings and linen yarn, in connection with a Nottingham house, which kept a number of waggons in constant transit with their goods. At the harbour is also a Morton's patent slip, capable of taking up vessels of considerable size.

The principal exports are grain, cattle, salmon, game, herrings, haddocks, pork, butter, eggs, and potatoes. In 1849, 134 vessels, 11,158 tons, belonged to Banff; in that year the customs duty received was £2653. For the year ended 5th January 1853, the customs revenue of the port was £2595, the reduction being accounted by the lowering of the duties on timber, corn, &c. At the same date there were 144 vessels, with an aggregate of 12,689 tons, belonging to the port.

The salmon fishery extends for miles along the coast. The river fishing is the property of the Earl of Fife, with the sea line towards

Macduff, which town is connected with Banff by a handsome stone bridge across the Deveron, the estuary of which was, in the time of the war, protected by a battery mounting some heavy cannon, with a company of artillery; it is now used as a station for the Preventive Coastguard.

At present there are comparatively few herring boats employed in the fishing from the port of Banff, but the neighbouring town of Macduff sends to sea about 70 boats, and its cure of herrings is well known in the foreign market for its superiority, and brings a high price accordingly; and you find in the safe and commodious harbour of Macduff vessels from all parts of the continent for the transit of this article.

The inhabitants of Banff are shrewd, intelligent, refined, and enterprising, and in these times of progress certainly keep pace with their neighbours in improvement—perhaps somewhat in advance, from the advantage of its excellent seminaries, and the general desire for knowledge and mental cultivation. It has its libraries and scientific and religious institutions well supported, and a weekly newspaper far surpassing any provincial one in the kingdom, admirably conducted, and of extensive circulation, which does much to diffuse general information, refine the taste, and facilitate and increase business.

The Burgh is under the jurisdiction of a provost, three bailies, and five councillors, who manage all the town's affairs; are trustees, along with shipowners, for the harbour dues and improvements; also in police and poor-law boards, and in various public endowments and charities. In regard to the latter, it is but justice to the generous donor—a Banff denizen, the late Mr Alexander Cassie of London, son of Bailie Cassie—to mention that some thirty years ago he left to the poor of Banff about £20,000, under perpetual trust of the Provost and Magistrates of Banff, the interest of which to be divided twice a year among the poor. This, with other charitable bequests, tend to lighten the burden of the poor on the public.

Banff unites with Elgin, Cullen, Inverurie, Kintore, and Peterhead, in sending a Member to Parliament. The population within the Parliamentary boundaries in 1851 was 6000; within the municipal boundaries, 3557.

The weekly market-day is Friday, on which day a corn-market is held, and there are four annual fairs.

By way of giving the finishing touch to this imperfect sketch of our "bonnie town," I shall wind up with the very laudatory remarks on its favoured situation and charming attractions, as described by a contemporary, a Banff educated writer for one of the London periodicals, which will throw an additional gleam of sunshine o'er the picture—

As here we pause by Venus' graceful shrine,  
On Banff's gay spires, white walls, and casements bright,

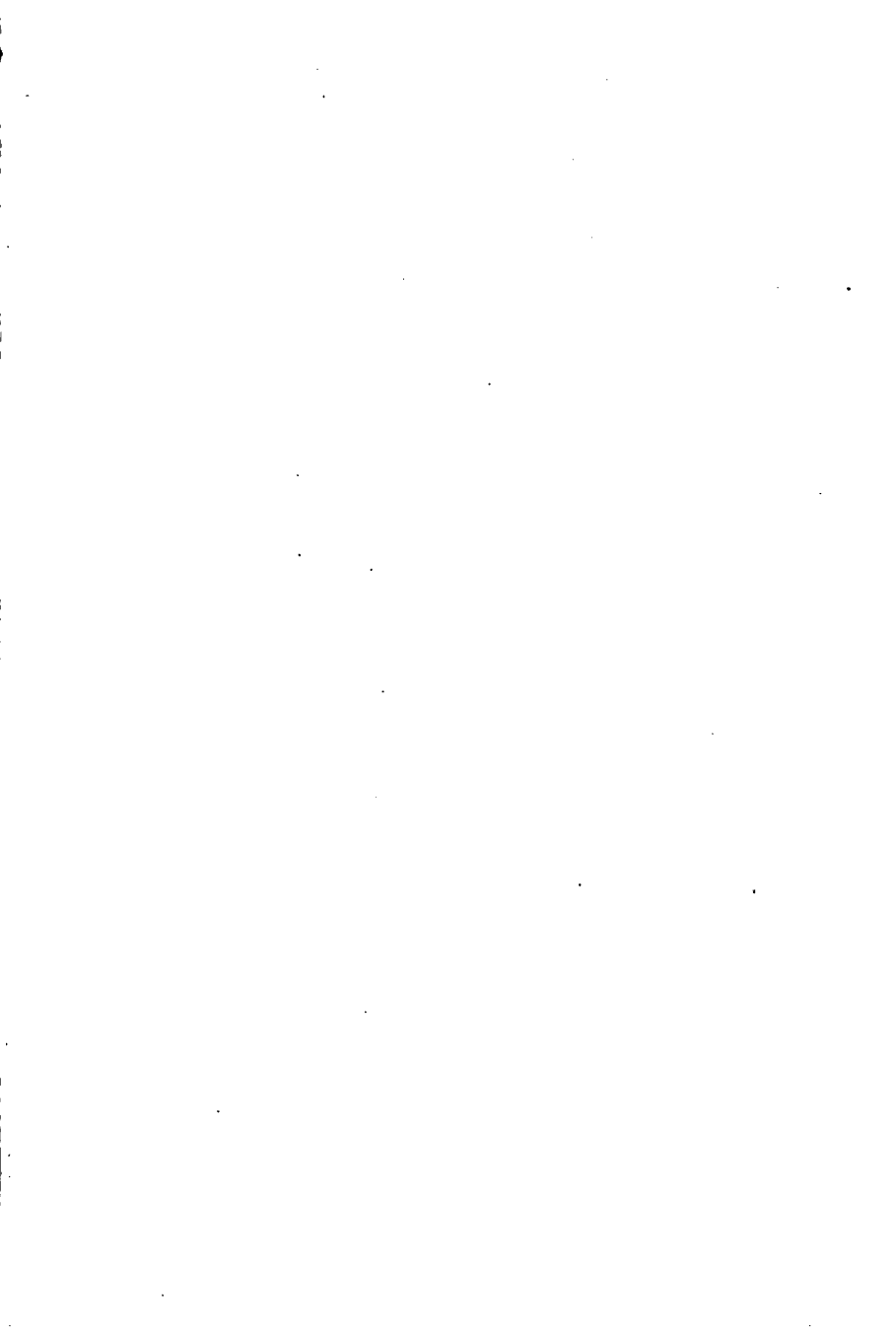
As imaged in yon placid mirror fine,  
That gently flows to meet the ocean's surging brine.

Lo ! swelling hills in distant prospect rise—  
Kilbirnie wears his golden coronal ;  
The lofty Knock seems to support the skies,  
Round whose blunt peak the white clouds wreathing fall ;  
Bin-Cullen, northward, doth his forehead tall,  
Like a strong giant, to the Frith display ;  
Fordyce his dark-brown shoulder rears, and all  
Those white-sailed ships are speeding down the Bay,  
In useful commerce bound to countries far away.

Oppression, discontent, find here no place ;  
Art, science, equity, and love are seen ;  
Utility and beauty here embrace ;  
Arcadia's vale was not more blest I ween.  
Peace, like a cherub, smiles upon the scene ;  
Exuberant plenty pours her precious store  
Into the lap of Industry serene ;  
While trade and commerce, eager still for more,  
The rich productions add of many a distant shore.

And our London enthusiast's pen tells us that " Modern tourists do not often take this route, at which I am surprised ; for the country is exceedingly beautiful, and the two little towns of Banff and Macduff, opposite to each other on the shores of a lovely bay, with the river Deveron falling into the sea midway between them, present a scenic picture which will forcibly remind the traveller of Naples. Like Naples, Macduff has a mountain, though it is not quite so high as Vesuvius, and does not send forth fire and smoke, except on grand national occasions, when the inhabitants celebrate their joy with a bonfire. At the foot of this hill, the Deveron is spanned by the ' bonny Brig o' Banff,' which the laddie cam' ower when he left the girl behind him ; and away up the valley for miles by the Deveron side, stretch the gardens and grounds of Duff House, forming one of the most beautiful parks in the kingdom. The white Brig of Alvah, with its single arch, backed by towering rocks, carpeted with fern, and nodding with the leaf-plumage of the silver birch, is a scene in a dream of fairyland. The scenery of the Highlands is grand and stern and rugged ; and the music that sweeps over it is the roar of the cataract, and the thunder of the pines ; but here it is soft and sweet, and the breeze comes in a breath laden with the fragrance of Lowland flowers, stirring the leaves gently. The calm beauty of this scene on a summer's day is something to be felt—not described." Referring to Doctor Johnson's flying visit to Banff, the writer goes on to say :—

" If he had spent a day at Banff, he might have discovered that its situation was singularly beautiful ; that it was one of the oldest royal burghs in Scotland ; that it was once the site of a Carmelite monastery,







BANFF.

DUFF HOUSE.

A. RAE & SON,

the history of whose foundation is lost in the remote recesses of the past ; that its castle was the birthplace and early home of Archbishop Sharpe, and that it was on its Gallow-hill that Macpherson, the bold outlaw, who 'robbed the rich and gave to the poor,' 'played a tune (his Lament) and danced it roun' beneath the gallows tree.' "

The picture being now framed and varnished by our London artist, let us conduct our readers to view some of our

#### MODERN BUILDINGS,

In the list of which the first, or rather the only one, as a specimen of architecture deserving particular mention and description, is

#### DUFF HOUSE,

of the charming situation of which we may be allowed to say—

How lovely fair the varied landscape lies,  
From craig of Doune to Alvah's wooded height !  
There russet hills in waving outline rise,  
Here smiling mansions gleam in lambent light ;  
O'er all Duff House detains the well-pleased sight,  
With vases, capitals, and turrets gay ;  
Woods, gardens, lawns, in vivid livery dight,  
Like a new Eden, all their charms display,  
And worthy is the man to whom pertains their sway !

This splendid mansion or palace is the principal seat of the Fife family, and splendid as it is, it would be still more so if the design were completed. It was built by Earl William of Braco, in the years 1740-45, after a design by the elder Adams, at an expense of £70,000. The style is purely Roman. The centre of the building is of an oblong shape, and consists of four lofty storeys. The first is a rustic basement, over which rise two storeys adorned with fluted pilasters, and an entablature of the style of the temple of Jupiter Stator at Rome. Over this entablature, which goes round the whole structure, there is an attic storey, surmounted by a balustrade. The four corners of the building have projections resembling towers, which break and vary the outline, and also rise to a greater height than the other parts of the attic storey. These towers are adorned at the angles by an upper range of pilasters, with an entablature of the composite order, and are crowned at top by domical roofs, on which octagonal pedestal chimneys are placed. Both the entrance and back façades have also central projections, surmounted by pediments, on which the family arms are cut in bas relief, which, with the appended achievements, fill the entire spaces of the pediments, and are all most exquisitely carved. The back and front of the building are precisely alike, except that the basement part of the projection in front is occupied by a handsome stair ascent circular, with carved

stone balustrades. The principal entrance to the magnificent vestibule is thus on the second storey.

The whole edifice is indeed rich, perhaps to excess, in architectural decoration, and, to be seen to the greatest advantage, should be viewed and examined close at hand. As it stands, it is incomplete, the centre only being finished. An idea of the splendid appearance which it would present, if it were wholly completed, may be obtained from a painting in one of the rooms, in which it is depicted as originally planned by the architect.

Duff House contains several very elegant apartments, but I shall not attempt a description of their splendour—they would require to be carefully gone over to be appreciated. Its walls are decorated with a variety of rare and most valuable paintings of the ancient and modern schools, which form a rare treat to the connoisseur. Many of them are interesting as specimens of art, or as portraits of celebrated characters, and examples of the costume of various ages and countries. Among the more excellent of the former class may be noticed a portrait, in perfect preservation, of the Constable de Bourbon, by Titian. This has been allowed by the best judges, both in this country and on the Continent, to be one of the very finest specimens of the great Venetian painter. What a rich, but subdued, mellowness of colouring pervades, and when for a little while we have looked at it steadily, so perfect is the execution, that we imagine we can behold the twinkling of the lustrous eye, the quivering of the expressive lip, and the flickering and gleam of the light along the armour. A head of Charles I., by Vandyke, esteemed a most characteristic specimen of that master; paintings of Lord Strafford and Lady Herbert, by Vandyke, are regarded as very fine; a full-length portrait of the late Earl of Fife, the hero of the Spanish cause, by Sir H. Raeburn—the style is free, vigorous, and animated, the likeness excellent, and the colouring deep and glowing, yet chaste and natural; portraits of Moliere, Sir Godfrey Kneller, Henderson, the Scottish preacher, by Jameson; Mrs Abingdon, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; portrait of Jane, the celebrated Duchess of Gordon, by Sir Joshua. The attitude in this painting is highly graceful and noble, and the rich drapery is chastely managed and beautifully coloured. A full-length portrait of Henrietta, Queen of Charles I., by Vandyke, also one of the Countess of Pembroke, both full of graceful ease, and exquisitely minute finish; Landscape, by Ruysdael; a Flower Piece, beautifully coloured; Cattle Piece, by Cuyp; a picture of Still Life, by Snyders; Landscape, by Wouvermans; Infant Christ, by Murillo; Virgin and Child, by Corregio; Philosopher and Skull, by Quintin Matsys, the Blacksmith of Antwerp, and is perhaps the picture which the majority of judges think more of than any of the others; Sea Piece, by Backhuysen; Shepherd with his Flock, by Rosa

du Tivoli ; Landscape, by Dominichino ; Charles the First, by Velasquez ; two paintings by Cano ; a painting by Luca Giordani ; Ostadis' Mother, by himself ; and many other excellent specimens of the Flemish and Dutch school ; portraits of the English Kings, from Henry V. to George the Second, including a full-length of Henry VIII., by Holbein ; also three interesting portraits, by Gavin Hamilton, of the last of the Stuarts, viz., of the Chevalier of 1715, of the more celebrated and better remembered Prince Charles of 1745, and of the Cardinal of York, in whom the male line of the unfortunate house came at length to a close ; also, portraits of Cromwell, Marlborough, Marshal Villiers, Prince Eugene, Charles XII., Peter the Great, John Duke of Argyle, Ludovico Caracci, with an endless number of family portraits and landscapes, &c., by ancient and modern artists, too numerous to be detailed in such a sketch as this.

#### THE LIBRARY

Is a spacious room, about 70 feet in length, and extending through the whole breadth of the building. The books are numerous and well selected, of the Latin classics, works on philology, jurisprudence, antiquities and heraldry, history and miscellaneous literature ; an ample store of French, German, and Spanish literature ; of the latter, the selection is very curious and diversified ; a number of costly illustrated works, and portfolios of antique and modern prints.

Towards the close of the last century (1780), the Duff House Library was visited by that profound classical scholar, William Nicol, at the head of the High School in Edinburgh, accompanied by his friend, the poet Burns. The former gentleman came on a visit to the learned Doctor Chapman (author of the *Latin Rudiments* and *Grammar*), who then taught a well attended academy in Inchdrewer Castle, at which the late Earl of Fife and his brother, General Sir Alexander Duff, received their early education, previous to moving to Westminster School ; and the poet, desirous to see this part of his native land, accompanied him. The Professor was quite enraptured with the interesting and valuable collection of ancient and foreign classics in the Library, confirming what his learned friend Chapman had told him of the collection. The poet Burns was much delighted with the Royal portraits in the great drawing-room at Duff House ; and while his friend's attention was fully engrossed among the classics, he was enjoying the sight of the fine paintings, particularly those of the Stuart family, for whom he, and his father before him, were the most devoted and over loyal adherents ; and the poet was, as his loving friend Clarinda expressed, "a beautiful rebel in his heart !"

I have noticed that the library is rich in Spanish literature. From the circumstance, indeed, of the late Earl having served for some years

in the armies of Spain, and from his intimate acquaintance both with the people and the language, there is in this library a more numerous and a more curious and diversified assemblage of Spanish books, &c., than is to be found, perhaps, in any other collection in Scotland. There is a fine folio Bible, bound in old red morocco, which is said to have belonged to Charles I. ; a copy of Bartolozzi's imitations of the drawings of Holbein, of Boydell's edition of Shakespeare, and of his edition of Hume's History of England, of Adam's description of the ruins of Dioclesian's Palace at Spalatro, of several magnificent works of travels and antiquities, and, in particular, there are a great many folio volumes, containing interleaved portraits, the greater number of much beauty and rarity, of the most remarkable characters connected both with this and with foreign countries. Lord Fife's collection of coins and medals is also rare, valuable, and extensive.

#### THE ARMOURY,

Communicating with the Library, contains a curious and interesting collection of arms and armour. The objects which, in the first place, more particularly attract the attention are the "sword and target" of the celebrated freebooter M'Pherson, or, as he is sometimes called, the Rob Boy of the North ! These are, beyond all doubt, genuine ; and the sword, in particular, is well worthy of notice, as a most formidable weapon, requiring both hands to wield it. The collection contains one or two Roman swords of bronze, which were dug up in the vicinity ; an ancient British bronze knife, supposed to have been held between the finger and thumb, in the manner practised by the Pelew Islanders of the present day ; three sword-blades by Andrea Ferrara, with his name distinctly marked upon each—an armourer, by the way, of whom we have heard a tradition, in all probability a very absurd one, that he was at one time resident in Banff ; several beautiful Damascus blades, richly inlaid with gold ; a variety of swords, rapiers, daggers, and poignards, of different ages, and by celebrated workmen, many with handles and ornaments of beautiful workmanship ; among others an Eastern sabre, a stiletto, with a large steel guard for the hand ; a Persian kanjur, a Malay creese, an Albanian hatagar, covered with green velvet ; a dagger, which, on being made use of, springs out into three distinct blades ; an Eastern Nair's knife, a singular weapon, with a knife and fork in the same sheath, inlaid with gold, and having the handle of amber ; a great many guns, pistols, and other fire-arms, of antique appearance, finely inlaid with gold and silver ; a very beautiful Persian battle-axe, inlaid with gold ; a small iron mace, with Latin inscription, purporting that it was once borne by Attila, King of the Huns ; several beautiful specimens of partizans ; a curious weapon, used in the

middle ages, called the military flail ; specimens of two-handed swords, used by the Swiss in their combats with the Duke of Burgundy, of which mention is made in the novel of Anne of Gierstein ; a flagstaff, presented to Lord Fife by the Burgh of Banff, and said to have belonged to Malcolm Canmore. Here, also, are memorials of Waterloo, of helmets and cuirasses ; and though last, not least, a magnificent Damascus blade, presented to the late Earl of Fife (who died in 1857) by the Marquis of Wellesley, as a souvenir of Peninsular association, on his Lordship leaving for England on the death of his father, the Earl Alexander. The sword, which was much prized by the noble Earl, is ornamented with precious stones on a ground of solid gold, with a richly embossed scabbard of gold on crimson velvet. The weapon, which was presented by the donor to Lord Fife, in order to mark his sense of the meritorious services he had rendered the cause of the Spaniards, was gained by the Marquis in India while Governor-General, and was one of the splendid trophies of our arms in Tippoo Sultan's country. Within the short limits which such a description of this splendid residence must of necessity be compressed, we have not been able to give anything like a complete enumeration of the various paintings and other objects which present themselves to the notice of the visitor.

We may, however, notice one charming addition just about to be made to the collection of paintings, in a full length picture of the present Countess of Fife, by that celebrated lady-painter, F. Grant of Kilgraston. It is a presentation to her Ladyship from the Tenantry on the Fife Estates, joined by the gentlemen of the town of Banff, as a mark of the very high estimation in which the Countess is regarded by the numerous subscribers, for her charming condescension and affability, her great charity and consideration for the poor and afflicted over the wide family domain, with her unbounded hospitality and kindness to all who have the happiness of approaching her favoured and happy circle.

We have seen this gem of art, and admire it as a faithful likeness of the interesting and animated Countess. It is beautifully and carefully finished in all the light and brilliancy of poetic touch ascribed to the artist, the expression true and engaging, and the eye emanative of the spirit and warmth of heart of the fair lady ! The whole figure is distinguished by beauty and purity of colouring, and by great ease and gracefulness of attitude, with the natural purity and whiteness of the symmetrical arm, so witchingly brought out under the transparent lace work of the dress. The little sky terrier is admirably brought out in an easy attitude, looking up with beaming eye and intelligent mug ! watching every gesture of his much loved mistress !

Satisfied with our admiration of this interesting mansion, let us betake ourselves to a ramble in Lord Fife's extensive Park, which, with

the surrounding plantations, measures fourteen miles in circumference. The Park is bounded by the two Bridges of Banff and Alvah, and contains within its circuit a part of two counties, and four parishes. The pleasure grounds are laid out with much taste. The walks and drives are of great extent and variety, some winding beautifully along the banks of the Deveron, and others leading off, in different directions, to wide and distant plantations.

About three miles from the house, where the river is considerably narrowed by the lofty and impending crags, a majestic arch is thrown across. And here

The mountain ash waves wide its winged leaves ;  
 The fringy larches shake their pensile plumes ;  
 The flowery thorn its timber meshes weaves,  
 And quivering birch and woodbine breathe perfumes.  
 Anon, far grander traits the scene assumes :  
 Glenalvah's crags and bridge now greet our eyes ;  
 And, lo ! a wide-spread watery cavern glooms—  
 On either hand huge precipices rise,  
 Bristled with scraggy trees which seem to touch the skies.

This stately arch bestrides the murky stream,  
 Which, as it sluggish passes, lingering laves  
 The jutting crags, deep jag'd with many a seam,  
 That courts, and yet impedes, the struggling waves.  
 Oh, what a scene, when midnight tempest raves !  
 When fork lightning rends the black-browed cloud ;  
 Loud thunder rattles 'mongst the peaks and caves,  
 And tumbling dark descends the roaring flood—  
 Oh, what a scene sublime, to quell the vain, the proud !

Once, in the precincts of this lurid grove,  
 A hapless damsel, mangled, murder'd lay ;  
 Where was religion, mercy, pity, love ?  
 Where fled humanity that dismal day ?  
 Even from the house of prayer he took his way—  
 He, once her lover ; then, with purpose fell,  
 Her blood to shed—his victim fond to slay ;  
 What pen, in language strong enough, can tell,  
 How vice indulged transforms the human breast to hell !

Thus the view which presents itself is peculiarly wild and romantic. The fine windings of the river, the rugged scenery on either side, the overhanging woods, form a landscape truly grand, and worthy of the pencil of a Claude Lorraine.

In wild and romantic Scotland, we have every dark, umbrageous dell, and deeply embowered cavern, peopled with fays, sprites, and warlocks, and celebrated for some deadly fight, atrocious murder, or tender love passage ; and here, "in the precincts of this lurid grove," was committed, in my remembrance, one of the foulest murders, conceived and perpetrated by a demon in human shape. It was a marvel, at the time, how the fiend escaped the hands of justice ; but being







A. RAE & SON,

ALVAH BRIDGE.

BANFF.

related to one of the officers who went to apprehend him, he got information and fled.

Amid these beautiful retreats and shady walks, we may imagine many a lover has composed a sonnet to his mistress's eye-brow, or a farewell effusion on the Bonnie Brig of Alvah, and I give my readers the benefit of the most recently composed one I have seen :—

#### BRIG OF ALVAH.

Have you been on the braes by the brig of sweet Alvah ?

Where winds the dark Deveron slow to the sea ;

Saw ye ever bonnier braes than at Alvah ?

Tell me where ? tell me how can there bonnier be ?

Of rock and of river, of braeside and bower,

A scene of enchantment more varied and sweet ;

The smile of the sunbeams, the tears of the shower,

The kiss of the summer gale, never may meet.

The walks in the woodlands, what pathways of pleasure,

All fragrant with flowery thickets of thorn,

Where many a bird, to its merriest measure,

Awakens the music that welcomes the morn.

Yet, sweetest of all ! when the shadowy even

Descends on that spot with the wings of a dove ;

When the waters reflect back the stars of high heaven !

Like the eyes of the lovely we look on with love !

Not the land of the Promise—the pasture-clad prairie,

To Israel's hope, to the emigrant's heart ;

Not the Edens of bliss ! nor the regions of fairy

Rapt visions to pilgrim and poet impart.

Oh Alvah : sweet Alvah ! were prospect more pleasant,

For all I would have, or could hope for, thou hast ;

And alas ! to behold thee, the joy of the present

Must soon—ah ! too soon—be a pang for the past !

About a mile nearer Duff House, we come upon a very tasteful and artistic

#### MAUSOLEUM.

It is of Gothic architecture, surrounded with shrubbery,

The cypress and the yew's funereal shade ;

and forms a striking ornament to the Park. The windows are of painted glass, in casements of stone ; and in front are placed two beautiful figures in statuary, emblematical of Faith and Hope.

In the middle of the last century were still to be seen, and described to me by an elderly gentleman who saw the entire demolition of the ruins, and foundation of St Mary's Chapel, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin by King Robert, 1324. The adjacent grounds were also devoted, by his Royal Charter, for the building and support of a monastery of the holy brethren of Mount Carmel.

Here I may be allowed to pause for a moment in courtesy to my

poetic friend, whose genial and descriptive talent has so much enlivened my ramble since I entered the Park, and beg a few descriptive lines from his ready and effective pen, and thus he tells us that

From Carmel's sylvan shades of old there came  
 An holy order, in high aim combined,  
 A Saviour's loving mercy to proclaim,  
 Right joyful tidings to all human kind.  
 And here a fair congenial spot did find,  
 And gladly reared a consecrated shrine,  
 For solemn worship, praise and prayer, designed,  
 And celebration of those rites divine,  
 Which train each willing soul in holiness to shine.

Oh! here how glad, at evening's balmy close,  
 From sainted lips, from souls of ecstasy,  
 The sound of vesper-hymns harmonious rose,  
 Sublimely swelling, to the listening sky!  
 Now all is silent:—Here their dry bones lie;—  
 Here, too, th' illustrious dead, cold mouldering, rest;  
 While Faith and Hope, placed on cincture high,  
 Point to those beauteous regions of the blest.  
 E'en these fair realms of love, where no fell foes molest.

It appears probable that this monastery of Carmelites, or White Friars, had been established by Alexander III. before 1324, though not by the writ of the King. The Order had their origin from Mount Carmel, in Syria. St Louis, King of France, returning from Asia, brought along with him this Order, dividing them into thirty-two provinces, of which Scotland was the thirteenth.—Mal. III. This Order wore white garments, and had a cowl over their head when they begged alms. They had a prior, who was chief of the house; he, with the ordinary brethren, resided in the cell, and their arms were a representation of the Virgin Mary, and of Jesus Christ elevated on a temple, and below the figure is a Carmelite in his pontificals. There was a provincial prior who directed in greater matters, and he was in the house of the same order at Bervie, and used the seal of St Andrew. These institutions were applicable to the times, and consistent with the induction clause of the King's Grants, being for the salvation of his own soul, the salvation of his predecessors' and successors' souls, Kings of Scotland.

In their flourishing state, the monasteries of Scotland are believed to have equalled, if they did not surpass, in wealth and splendour, most establishments of the kind in other countries of Europe. Their lands and domains equalled in extent the possessions of the most powerful barons, and were the richest and best cultivated in the kingdom. The members of their communities were, for a long period, revered as the learned guides and spiritual instructors of the people, the indulgent masters of numerous vassals and retainers, and the kind benefactors of the poor. Their churches and conventual buildings, raised with consummate art and skill, and profusely adorned with carving and painting,

were the chief architectural ornaments of the country. Their halls were the seats of splendid hospitality, where princes and distinguished persons were entertained, and where minstrels and professors of the liberal arts were ever welcome guests.

History presents few changes of fortune more sudden and complete than that which befel the monastic communities at the period of the Reformation. Within a few years, their wealth, their honours, their avocations, their establishments, were swept away. The unfortunate, often perhaps, deeply wronged—though some of them were, doubtless, loaded with just accusations—were driven from their ancient seats; their magnificent edifices—if the chance of war had not already desolated them—were either demolished by the blind rage of the populace and the barbarous ignorance of the Government, or left to crumble into premature decay.

Having discussed the good Friars and their belongings, my poetic friend insinuates thus :

Saint Mary's Well must now our thoughts engage;  
Two lofty overshadowing firs wave near;  
'Tis skirted by the golden saxifrage.  
Its placid waters, O how cool and clear!  
What venerable feet have trodden here,  
In holy pilgrimage, ere matin bell!  
Let no unhallowed thing its precincts dear  
Approach with levity, or purpose fell.  
Still sacred be the site of bless'd Saint Mary's Well!

The spring of St Mary's Well still runs pure and limpid, and *make* a refreshing draught in summer to the wanderer in search of the picturesque. And also keep in view

That now we've gain'd Colleopard's Mount renowned,  
The penal work of penitents, I ween;  
With storied oratory meetly crowned,  
Where vested nuns and holy monks are seen,  
Limned in pontificals. Erst on this green  
Have patriot kings and nobles joyed to meet.  
A surging sea of leaves, in varied sheen—  
The embowering woods bend lowly at our feet;  
What goodly views around our orbs of vision greet!

Traditional accounts inform us that this remarkable hill or mount belonged to the Church, and that the Carmelite brethren induced those under their religious discipline to carry so much earth every day as a penance for immoral actions and peccadilloes. It is stated the Mount of Colleopard was of old a part of the donation of King Alexander III., and certainly so of King Robert the Bruce. He founded the Friars of the Mount-juxta-Banff, and this has been a conspicuous place there, as well as the mount within the town, both being a part of the original donation *infra Carmulitam*, meaning within the bounds of that endow-

ment, and may have been augmented by the injunction of the fraternity of White Friars, but situated long before as an object rather remarkable.

It is said that on this mount King Robert the Bruce received the homage of his subjects, and dispensed his grants. The sub-foundation, 1554, clearly indicates the Mount Colleopard as a part of the then glebe of the Carmelites, on which stood a chapel—as has been already noticed—and the consecrated ground of the sepulchre, bounded by the highway leading from Bachlaw to Banff, where many dead bodies lie, and where the foundation of a chapel was seen not a hundred years ago, and at which place Earl James the First erected an urn, in which the ashes of the monks were enclosed. His remains, together with many others of the noble family of Fife, repose in the vault of the mausoleum just described. In my day, I have witnessed the interment in this sanctuary of three Earls of that ancient clan.

Among the monuments in the mausoleum is one of curious sculpture and great antiquity, sacred to the memory of John Duff of Muldavat, an ancestor of Lord Fife. In this monument is rudely sculptured the figure of a warrior in full coat of armour, with this inscription :—

“*Hic jacet Johannes Duf de Muldavat et Baldavi, obiit. 2 Julii 1404.*” &c.

There are many beautiful and finely sculptured monuments to the dead in this last resting-place, but it is beyond our object to delineate their intrinsic peculiarities.

Having followed out the antiquity of some of the leading families who held sway in our ancient burgh in the days of old, and touching their characteristics, we may presume to take a look at the history of the noble family over whose ground we have for some time been wandering with admiring eyes, and whose princely domicile we have invaded with our humble descriptive powers.

#### THE CLAN DUFF.

Historical data bear ample testimony that the remote head of the Clan Duff was Fife Macduff, who was a person of considerable status in the time of Kenneth II. of Scotland, and gave that Prince great assistance in his wars with the Picts, about the year 834. On their reduction in 840, Kenneth the II. gave this Macduff, in reward for his services, all the lands, then called Othelinia, which he himself had conquered from the Picts, and which extended from Fife-Ness to Clackmannan, from east to west, and from the river Forth in the south, to the river Euy and Erne in the north. Of this tract of land he was appointed hereditary Thane or Baron, naming it Fife, and this dignity was enjoyed by his posterity in a direct line to Macduff, the eighth Thane, who having contributed to the restoration of King Malcolm Canmore, that king

confirmed to him his county of Fife, and created him Earl thereof in 1057 or 1061: The title became extinct in 1353, on the death of Duncan, the thirteenth Earl, without male issue.

From the same ancestor descended David Duff, ancestor of the present Earl, who was proprietor of the lands and barony of Muldavit, in the county of Banff; and to whom Robert III. granted a charter, the document bearing to be "in favour of David Duff and Mary Chalmers, his spouse, of the lands of Muldavit," &c. This charter is dated 3d February 1404, so that the family can at least reckon their ancestry for nearly 500 years.

It would be work of considerable length to detail the full pedigree of descent from David Duff of Muldavit. We shall, therefore, pass onward to the period when the present family were ennobled in the person of William Duff, who, in 1735, was created a Peer of Ireland, by the title of Lord Braco of Kilbride. The same, "in consideration of his descent from Macduff, Earl of Fife," was, by patent dated 26th April 1759, advanced to the dignity of Earl of Fife and Viscount Macduff, both in the Peerage of Ireland.

He represented the County of Banff in Parliament in 1725, and steadily adhered to the interests of his country; but preferring a private to a public life, he declined to be returned to the next Parliament; and afterwards had the honours above conferred on him. He it was who, as before mentioned, joined the Duke of Cumberland at Aberdeen, during the rebellion in 1745; which, we suppose, proved a feather in his cap, seeing that his loyalty was, fourteen years after, rewarded by the dignity of Earl of Fife and Viscount Macduff. To us, in this part of the country, it is rather interesting and instructive to look into the history of this great personage's family, connected, as it became, with so many of our aristocracy.

The Earl first married Jannet Ogilvie, daughter of James, Earl of Findlater and Seafield, and Chancellor of Scotland, but by her (who died in 1722), had no issue. He afterwards married Jane, daughter of Sir James Grant of Grant, Bart., by whom he had seven sons and seven daughters, viz. :—

1. William, born 1726, died unmarried, March 1753.
2. James (became second Earl of Fife), married the heiress of Earl of Caithness.
3. Alexander, third Earl, married Miss Skene of Skene.
4. George, who married the daughter of General Dakell.
5. Patrick, died in infancy.
6. Lewis, who married Deborah, daughter of Griffith Davies, Esq.
7. Arthur, an advocate.

8. Anne, who married Alexander Duff of Hatten.
9. Jannet, married to Sir Wm. Gordon of Park, and secondly to George Hay, Esq. of Montblair.
10. Jean, married to Keith Urquhart, Esq. of Meldrum.
11. Helen, married to Robert Duff, Esq. of Logie.
12. Sophia Henrietta, married to Thomas Wharton Duff, Esq.
13. Caroline, died unmarried.
14. Margaret, married James Brodie of Brodie, and was burned to death, 24th April 1786.

The late James, Earl of Fife (so well known to us all in this quarter), was son of the Hon. Alexander Duff of Echt, who, on the death of his brother, Earl James, who died without issue, became third Earl of Fife. The Earl Alexander, who died 17th April 1811, had two sons, James, the fourth Earl, born on the 6th October, 1776, and died March 1857; and Alexander, who rose to be General in the army, and Sir Alexander Duff of Delgaty Castle, and father of the present and fifth Earl of Fife, who was born in Edinburgh in 1814, and married in 1846, Lady Agnes Georgina, second daughter of the sixteenth Earl of Errol, by Lady Elizabeth Fitzclarence, daughter of King William IV., and of course cousin to Queen Victoria. By her Ladyship, the Earl has the following children:—

1. Anne Elizabeth Clementina, born Aug. 16, 1847.
2. Ida Louisa Alice, born 11th December 1848.
3. Alexander William George, born 10th November 1849.
4. Alexina, born 20th March 1851.
5. Agnes Cecil Emeline, born 18th May 1852.
6. Mary Hamilton, born 20th February 1854; died 20th March 1854.

Before, however, proceeding further, let us return for a brief space to the

#### LATE EARL OF FIFE, OF SPANISH CELEBRITY,

A nobleman whose distinguished character was so widely known, and himself so universally beloved for his urbanity and condescension, his unwearied and unbounded benevolence, and the anxiety which he uniformly exhibited to contribute to the happiness and comfort of all around him. The inhabitants of this town have, indeed, good reason to hold the memory of his many virtues in grateful remembrance. Residing among us for so many years so unostentatiously, after so nobly sustaining in foreign lands the honour and reputation of his country by his talents and his exertions, and mingling in the highest circles of British

society, the friend and favourite, too, of his Sovereign—the finest gentleman in the world ! Truly, we may be proud to claim him as a denizen of our Royal Burgh, knowing that he passed his early days among our forefathers, and that he entertained a kindly feeling to “gentle and simple” among us up to his last hour. We, therefore, cannot doubt that even a short reminiscence of so distinguished a warrior may be acceptable, not only as matter of history, but of lively interest to those who come after us, hearing from their fathers that the good Earl James was the Poor Man’s Friend, and one of the most beloved and popular noblemen which Old Scotia had given to the world.

The Earl was ushered into the world on the 6th of October 1776, at Aberdeen, in his father’s, the Laird of Echt, town residence, and his early years were mostly spent at the country mansion ; but as he advanced in life, his uncle, the Earl, regarding him as his future successor, brought him and his brother, the late General Sir Alexander Duff of Delgaty, to Duff House, that they might have the advantage of pursuing the best course of education available in this country ; hence had the young gentlemen placed under the tuition of the learned Dr Chapman, at his seminary in Inchdrewer Castle. We learned from a contemporary that James Duff was handsome in person, and about him an aristocratic air, with the family talent for scholarship, with an iron memory for retaining closely, and talent for acquiring quickly, and excelled in the Latin and Greek languages. Dr Chapman was a teacher of high repute, and, doubtless, the young Lord must have carried with him a more than average store of classical learning on leaving the Academy and Duff House, where he had passed some happy youthful days in its beautiful environs—

Fair scene for childhood’s opening bloom !  
For sportive youth to stray in ;  
For manhood to enjoy his strength,  
And age to wear away in.

From Scotland he proceeded to Westminster School, where his acquirements as a scholar were much remarked and applauded by gentlemen eminent for learning visiting at Fife House ; and he became a frequent visitor at the Houses of Lords and Commons, when his power of memory and ability of imitating the style and manner of the great speakers, Pitt, Fox, Sheridan, &c., enabled him to carry home correct reports of all he heard, much to the satisfaction of his uncle, who, from old age, was sometimes incapacitated from attending. He afterwards studied at Oxford, and on his return to London was entered at Lincoln’s Inn for a time for the study of the Law, taking lessons in declamation from Bannister the comedian.

At an early period of the year 1796, Mr Duff went to join the



armies on the Continent, and afterwards proceeded to the Congress at Radstadt. On his return in 1798, he was the first to propose raising a corps of Riflemen. The project, however, was not deemed expedient.

Lord Fife soon after married Maria Caroline, second daughter of the Countess of Dysart. He was afterwards appointed to command the Banff and Inverness Militia, and brought the regiment to a perfect state of discipline. His union with this charming lady was happy in every respect save in its duration. It was during his residence in Edinburgh, and in command of this regiment, that he suffered the loss of his amiable partner, who was taken from him 20th December 1805. His Lordship cherished her memory to the latest period of his life. The following lines accompanied a likeness of her at the time of her death :—

Stranger or friend, in this faint sketch behold,  
An angel's figure in a mortal mould;  
In human beauty though the form excelled,  
Each feature yielded to the mind it held.  
Heaven claimed the spark of its ethereal flame,  
And earth returned it spotless as it came.  
So die the good, the beauteous, and the kind!  
And, dying, leave a lesson to mankind.

Overwhelmed with grief at the sudden loss of his beloved lady, his Lordship sought solace in foreign travel, and proceeded to the Continent, which was now in a blaze, and joined the English army under Sir John Moore and General Cathcart, with a Swedish and Prussian force under Tolstoy, afterwards reviewed at Stettin by the King of Prussia. At this juncture, war 'twixt Prussia and France seemed to be inevitable; and Napoleon, inflamed by cupidity, did all in his power to urge it on, till the Government could no longer stand it—and the battle of Jena was the consequence, which fairly crushed the power of Prussia.

Lord Fife had gone to Vienna for some time; but getting tired of an inactive life, and burning with ardour to participate in the mighty strife gathering around the horizon of the crowned heads of Europe, hastened to join the Austrian army under the Archduke Charles, whose friendship he had gained during his sojourn in the capital. It would, however, be vain in us to give an idea of the momentous campaign which followed, and the hard-contested fights, in which Lord Macduff took a conspicuous part as a volunteer officer. The battle of Wertingen soon followed; the capitulation of Ulm, the discomfiture of Gunsburg, and Augsburg; and Munich, and the crowning defeat at Austerlitz, paved the way for the capitulation of Vienna, and negotiations for peace—Napoleon returning to Paris exulting at his success in humbling the crowned heads of the North.

These are a few of the mighty and interesting events in which the gallant Macduff took part, affording him that opportunity of acquiring

knowledge of military tactics, coolness in the hour of danger, and unflinching perseverance, which carried him through the fights, disasters, and crosses which awaited him in the battle fields of the then patriotic Spain.

On the first intelligence of disturbances in Spain, Lord Fife embarked at Trieste for Malta, being determined to join the patriotic Spaniards. His Lordship, on arriving at Cadiz, found his countryman and relative, the consul, Sir James Duff, in high glee at the success of the patriots. He highly applauded his relative's resolve. Enthusiasm in the cause was at its highest pitch, and his Lordship got fully under its influence. He soon mastered the Spanish language, and passed through several parts of Spain, forming acquaintances with some of the principal leaders of the day, and one of his first steps was to join Jovellanos, one of the best and wisest of the Junta, both a warrior and a statesman, and Lieutenant-General in the army. Various changes and chances occurred to bring Lord Fife's military and diplomatic talents under the notice of the Supreme Junta, both at Seville and Cadiz.

An attack on Seville appearing imminent at this time, his Lordship remained for a short time with the chiefs; but, seeing this event getting more remote, he joined the army under Cuesta, who was soon after united to the British under Lord Wellesley.

Lord Fife, although not nominally in command of any particular portion of the troops, yet, from the confidence reposed in him by the Spaniards, and the power allowed him to act, had considerable share in events before, during, and after the battle of Talavera. In the early part of the day, he had removed guns from the Spanish lines to strengthen the British centre, and during the heat of the fight continued to take charge of them, at same time directing the movements of two Spanish regiments. It was in this arduous duty that he was so severely wounded by a sabre cut in the neck by an officer leading on a force to take and silence these destructive missiles, and, while in the act of saving himself, he saw one of his Spanish officers cut down in the mêlée, and struggling with his adversary, flew to his assistance and saved his life. At the close of the battle, Lord Fife, with characteristic ardour, headed a regiment of Spanish cavalry, brought up to harass the retreat of the French.

The victory of Talavera, though glorious, was not a decisive one. His Lordship remained in charge of the wounded, and through his aid and his officers, many of the disabled were saved.

In the after movements of the British army, Lord Fife accompanied Lord Wellesley to Badajoz. The battle of Ocaña soon followed. The Spanish army under a new leader was very numerous. 43,000 foot, 6000 cavalry, and 60 pieces of cannon, were attacked by the French,

and a fearful route ensued. The Spaniards lost in the battle 4000 killed and 20,000 wounded. Lord Fife, at the request of the Junta, had accompanied this army, although still suffering from his wound, and had taken so far an active part in it, and exerted himself to persuade the Spanish leader to adopt a different course of strategy to the one he had so fatally pursued, to the discomfiture of his fine army and the mortification of the British officers assisting him.

This defeat, by destroying the chief army of the patriots, opened up Southern Spain to the French, and Cadiz became the turning-point in the struggle between the patriots and the invaders; and a hurried flight to this capital was the crisis of the strife. It was a place of great natural strength, and easily increased by art. The Isle de Leon is separated from the mainland, and on this Isle was the Fort of Matagorda; and Lord Fife strongly advised that the place should be defended; and so it was instantly garrisoned by a party of British soldiers and seamen, under Colonel MacLaine, amounting to about 155, who, for fifty-five days, gallantly defended the Fort against the attacks of Soult, with 8000 men. The little garrison held by the place till it was a heap of ruins. During the last two days, the small band had 16 killed and 57 wounded, and were ultimately taken off by the boats of the British squadron.

Lord Fife had his share in the closing struggle at this Fort, as it was chiefly by his advice that it had been defended, and he was not the man to recommend a course which he was not prepared to support. Accordingly, when matters were at the worst, he went off in a boat from Cadiz to relieve the garrison. In this effort, his Lordship put his life in great peril, for the enemy's batteries raked the waters on the approach to the Fort. As it was, he received that wound the effects of which followed him to his grave. The whole of his proceedings were admirably described at the time, and we shall quote a paragraph from it:—"On one of the days of the siege, Lord Macduff, with a Spanish General—a brave little fellow—set out in a boat to cross the bay, where the random shot and shells were flying about. After running the gauntlet for a quarter of an hour, it reached the shelter of the Fort, and the voyageurs were hailed with a hearty welcome, saturated as their clothes were with sea-water, from the splash of shot and shell; but the atmosphere of Matagorda, at that moment, was hot enough to remove all inconvenience from them on that score. It was, and had been during the last half-hour, one blaze of fire, every gun on its battery being discharged once at least within each minute. The Commandant had little time to greet his gallant visitors, but their presence at such a moment produced a general cheer, while the enemy's fire was truly terrific.

It was from the shore and shipping an awful and interesting sight.

Amidst clouds of smoke and showers of ball, the flag of Spain was triumphantly floating. One unlucky shot, however, wounded the flagstaff; it drooped, and a shout of grief and despair passed from tower to tower. Thousands of hearts sunk for that moment, but the star of Spain was still in the ascendant. Lord Macduff, insensible to the danger of the moment, sprung up to its support, and by main strength sustained it till further aid could reach him. MacLaine and others came to his relief, and by the help of the engineers' artificers, was once more erect. It was at that moment, and on such a noble occasion, that Lord Macduff received the wound which had so nearly deprived him of a limb. But although suffering severely, he remained long enough to see the end of that day's work, the French resting from their ineffectual toil and fire.

When it became known to the people of Cadiz that their gallant friend, "Maucdoov," had been severely wounded, a general feeling of regret prevailed throughout the city, and his Lordship accepted the hospitality of his relative, Consul Duff, in whose mansion he remained till his convalescence. A crutch is an unsightly machine even in the hands of the hero; and, after being confined for some time, his Lordship took to a sedan chair, and in this conveyance was borne through all parts of the town in a sort of triumph. Besides this wound, his Lordship received a severe wound in the battle of Ocana and Talavera.

Recovering from all these drawbacks, he was soon again astir, and engaged in a number of expeditions. In that to Tariffa, he accompanied Lord Lynedoch; took an active part in the battle of Buroessa, and in the very important affair at Algesiras.

On the Duke of Wellington's visit to Cadiz, it was Lord Fife's good fortune to contribute his assistance towards the arrangement made by the Cortes, which gave His Grace the command of the provinces occupied by his army.

Lord Fife's father, the Earl Alexander, dying in 1811, it became necessary for His Lordship to return home to attend to his own affairs. His departure from the Peninsula was much lamented by all the Spanish officers and statesmen with whom he had been associated, as well as by the British commanders, to whom he had often been of signal service. It was at this time the Marquis Wellesley presented him with the magnificent Damascus sword, ornamented with precious stones, on a ground of solid gold, one of the Duke's Indian trophies, in order to mark his sense of the meritorious services he had rendered to the cause of the Spaniards. The Spanish nation held His Lordship in the highest esteem, and the Cortes conferred on him the rank of General and a grandee of Spain.

The noble Earl returned home in 1813. At that time the war was still progressing. The gallant Peer, who had gained so many laurels in

the Spanish cause, was received with *eclat* at the Court of the Prince-Regent, who regarded him with special favour, and soon conferred on him the office of Lord of the Bedchamber.

From early life, he was devoted to His Majesty, who, indeed, was the star that directed his course amid all the changes and vicissitudes of parties and politics. Once, and once only, did any symptoms of royal displeasure appear. Public duty compelled a seeming opposition to the Government on the question of the Malt Tax; but on a proper occasion afterwards, His Majesty, acting as a king, and feeling as a man, for a devoted subject, reinstated Lord Fife in his office in the household, and afterwards conferred on him the dignity of a British Peer, the Order of the Thistle, and the Grand Military Cross of Hanover.

On reaching his native country, the noble Lord found much demanding his attention. His uncle's extraordinary testament had curtailed his expectancies, which obliged him to have recourse to law proceedings, which involved him in heavy losses. These disappointments did not, however, prevent him from chalking out great improvements on his estates—in laying down roads, building towns, opening harbours, planting vast tracts of land—and afterwards, in times of distress, giving to his tenants rather than asking from them, and not unfrequently supplying them with seed when their crops failed. About this time, he repaired the whole, and renovated some, of the apartments of the Abbey of Pluscarden, the situation of which is even more romantic than the celebrated ruins of Melrose Abbey.

His Lordship was a great mason, and, when Grand Master of Scotland, laid the foundation of Waterloo Bridge and of the Bridewell in Edinburgh, and of the Aberdeen Assembly Rooms.

He was during eight years member of Parliament for the county of Banff, and on his retiring, his brother, General Sir Alexander Duff, was returned for the Banff and Elgin Burghs.

At various periods since his return from Spain, when he could withdraw himself from Court, and his personal attendance on the Sovereign, we find him at home, at his princely seat, Duff House, doing the honours of his house and of his high position in the most liberal hospitality. His receptions were of the most *recherché* character, and given with a splendour and taste seldom witnessed in the far north, and at his table you met the highest personages in the land. On these festive occasions, the extensive and magnificent range of apartments were thrown open and filled with hundreds of the great, the gay, and the happy for days in succession.

At this time his Lordship's household was under the direction of a personage of high taste and skill in decorative and entertaining art—a second Gunter—so these festive scenes were not inaptly designated

“the Arabian Nights’ Entertainments.” On occasions when his Lordship’s visitors were confined to the family circle, as he generally had a few select spirits in his coterie, his ménagé and daily routine were perfect, and would have satisfied the most exquisite gourmand. His French cuisinier was highly skilled in the art, and produced the most satisfactory displays ; while from his Lordship’s most perfect knowledge of the qualities of all sorts of wines, the various kinds with which the tastes of his guests were plied became instructive, and no doubt happily exhilarating.

His Lordship’s hospitality was not confined to the family mansion, for as the hunting and shooting seasons came round, he moved to his shooting quarters, Mar Lodge, than which there is not a finer, more wild, and extensive Highland range, abounding with game of every description.

To those honoured by his Lordship’s invitation to join him in the sports of the field, it must have been a rare enjoyment, as Sir Walter describes hunting in the Braes of Mar in the days of Waverley :—

Through heather, moss, ’mong frogs, and bogs, and fogs,  
 ’Mongst craggy cliffs and thunder batter’d hills,  
 Hares, hinds, bucks, roes, are chased by men and dogs,  
 Where two hours hunting fourscore fat deer kills ;  
 Lowland, your sports are low as is your seat ;  
 The Highland games and minds are high and great !

In the course of Lord Fife’s desultory visits to the North, and while at Duff House, he generally took a survey of his fine estates in Morayshire ; and while at Imes House, the good people of Elgin came in for a share of his benevolent liberality, and he soon discovered that they were far behind in progress, and little improvement going forward in their town. He set about paving their streets, encouraging it by a handsome subscription, and laid out on his own property, in the vicinity of the town, along the banks of the river Lossie, a beautifully romantic walk, ornamented with trees and shrubs, for the benefit of the health and recreation of the ladies of Elgin ; and to his urging the Magistrates to carry out many other improvements which his taste suggested and his purse supported, Elgin may date its rapid and tasteful improvement to the impetus given at that time by his Lordship, and we may add the beautiful and extensive ruin of Elgin Cathedral owes its preservation in a great measure to his suggestion.

In his Lordship’s own town of Macduff, many improvements were put in progress, commencing with a new harbour, which always tends to increase wealth and industry, as appears in the general prosperity and improvement of the town, in spacious streets and substantial buildings, in shipbuilding and fishing, the herring fishing being prosecuted with an

energy, extent, and perfection of cure which commands the highest prices in the Continental market. The salmon fishing of the Deveron, with its depot, is the property of the Earl, and is carried on with great success. Here also are mills for grinding corn, bones for manure, and for sawing timber.

In the intervals of these years, his Lordship gave steady attendance in his place in the House of Commons, always supporting by his vote a Liberal policy. His political duties and his attendance at Court engrossed the most of his time, and in both capacities he attracted considerable notice. An occasion in which his peculiar qualities were brought out occurred when George the Fourth paid his famous visit to Edinburgh in 1822. In the numerous public appearances of the King, Lord Fife was always found in close companionship with the Sovereign; and his display on these occasions gratified his countrymen. Not one of Scotia's nobles made a more gallant appearance in sustaining the splendour of the event than the noble Thane at the head of his clan—all chosen men from the Braes of Mar, attired in full Highland garb. His Lordship returned with the King, embarking at Fort Edgar. And here we may pause to remark, for the honour of our country and that of the noble Earl, that during the remainder of the King's life, up to 1830, no noble about Court enjoyed more of the royal favour and confidence, and, we add, more fellowship of greatness of mind. Endowed with resplendent talents; tastes refined for all that is beautiful in science and art; a mind fraught with intelligence of all the great events which had occurred in this so interesting a period of our country's glory, having achieved the freedom of Europe by its mighty deeds of arms, in which he bore a part; a patriot, a philanthropist, a scholar, with an iron memory, replete with conversational powers of the highest order, improved by association with many of the crowned heads of Europe—the intimacy of the more antiquated Bourbons while at old Holyrood, and the palmy days of their restoration to the throne; the intercourse with the once mighty Chief of France, the great Napoleon, and his right hand, Talleyrand, with many of the renowned Marshals, while a prisoner on parole in Paris; with a thorough insight into the character of the Spanish people, their rulers and their country. He, too, who had lived in the days of Fox, Pitt, Sheridan, Addington, Moira, Canning, Perceval, Lansdowne, Russell, and Palmerston, and had listened to the stirring aspirations of their great minds—as well as the all subduing and enchanting eloquence of a Kemble and a Talma—added to the cordial friendship and regard of the great Wellington. And, beyond all, with a heart redolent with benevolent feeling towards his fellowmen; gifted with the most conciliatory disposition, and with amiable and courteous manner; the friend of every enterprise or undertaking calculated to advance the freedom and happi-

ness of the human race; and there could not be a more worthy associate of our great Monarch, or a friend whose tender sympathy and assiduity was more calculated to soothe the sufferings of frail humanity which clouded the last days of the Sovereign. It is instructive to learn that, in the recreative hours of the King, in these days when, at Windsor Castle, in the plenitude of luxury and refinement, and when the royal cottage was at times the abode of majesty, these two illustrious men did, in their drives about Windsor, throw off the restraint of a Court, and quietly assume the guise of humble citizens, to enjoy the pleasure of paying a stolen visit to the humble cottage, and the more comfortable fireside, of the sturdy yeoman.

We rather record this pleasing trait of the Sovereign's benignity of heart than presume to dilate on those gay and luxurious scenes which distinguish a Court life, with all its fascinations, gallantries, and intrigues, often so graphically pourtrayed at the same authentic source. These gracious visits to the lowly hearth and humble cot awaken the most pleasing reflection in the generous heart, and lead us to exult that in the amiable and illustrious lady who now presides over our free and happy land, we have still a Sovereign—a descendant of the royal house—who deems it no departure from her greatness to gladden with her benign presence and kindly word, the lowly cottar's fireside on the heather-clad mountains of her Highland Balmoral home—mayhap, at such a time, as is so well described by our country's bard:—

At length his lonely cot appears in view,  
Beneath the shelter of an aged tree;  
Th' expectant wee things, toddlin', stucker through  
To meet their dad, wi' flichterin' noise and gles.  
His wee bit ingle, blinkin' bonnily,  
His clean hearth-stane, his thriftie wife's smile,  
The lispin infant prattlin' on his knee,  
Does a' his weary carking cares beguile,  
An' makes him quite forget his labour and his toil.

On the death of George IV. in 1830, the new Sovereign, William IV., confirmed Lord Fife's appointment as a Lord of the Bedchamber, which office he held throughout the whole of the reign of the good-hearted sailor King. During the period of the Reform Bill, he warmly espoused the cause of the Reformers; and we know that at great personal inconvenience to himself, he tendered his vote in the majority, which secured the passing of that important measure.

Shortly before the death of William IV., in 1837, Lord Fife came down to Duff House, having many cogent reasons for quitting the capital and Court, with all their attractions. His arrival at the family mansion was, therefore, hailed with delight by the whole country, particularly by the poor and work-people, who cherished a lively recollection of former benefactions. Here, as it were, altogether abandoning the great



world, he devoted himself to the improvement of the country and his estates, and in promoting the comfort of the poor. Living in a quiet inexpensive way, he spent a great deal of his income in charitable gifts and contributions. Nor was the range of his bounty limited; it extended throughout the whole north. It was, we know, his constant study to search out persons in distress, or requiring assistance; and many were recipients of his kindness whom the world never suspected, whom no one knew but the giver, and whom no one will ever know. It was in this capacity, as the generous distributor of his fortune, that his Lordship, in his latter years, made himself chiefly known. Nor did the manifestation of these benevolent feelings fall off as age advanced. On the contrary, up to the last hour at which he was able to perform business, the passion, so to speak, for the exercise of charity seemed to grow. There was no stinting his benevolence—

His bounty an autumn 'twas  
That grew the more by reaping.

In regard to our own town of Banff, we may say he was truly a benefactor; his very kindness was carried to our homes and our fire-sides, gratifying the young and the old, while the abodes of misery and want were cheered by his benevolence. And the inhabitants, indeed, owed him a debt of gratitude for the increased measure of health they enjoyed in the free admission to his beautiful park and gardens, thereby bidding defiance to the doctor and the drug shop. It is also within our remembrance the extensive improvement his Lordship contemplated making in the town. He considered the present entrance to the Park old-fashioned and tasteless; had a plan for a grand new one, after the Thor at Berlin, on a reduced scale, and the approach to Duff House carried in a graceful sweep, with a crescent on each side of the entrance to the town, with houses of handsome structure for the citizens, and a commodious hotel, with a fine street running all the way to the harbour, which would have produced a fine effect. The Magistrates at the time entered into his views, and purchased a large ruin in the centre of the town, at one time the town-house of Duff of Corsindae, for the purpose of opening the street. But, alas, for Banff! in his Lordship's long absence a party of the Magistracy allowed the property to pass from them, the weaker number protesting against such barbarism. The evil was, however, perpetrated, and thus his Lordship's intention frustrated. But the town has to be grateful to him for a variety of improvements in after times. Among the many, a splendid Hotel on the Duff property, with accommodation equal to any in Edinburgh; and to sum up, we may say that nothing could be started in the town likely to improve it or benefit it in any way, which had not the encouragement of his

patronage. No matter what it was—whether the originating of a Soup Kitchen, or the more ambitious project of supplying the Parish Church with a spire, the erecting of a new church for the Episcopal communion, the furnishing of the County Hall, the supplying of amusement for the inhabitants—in all these, and multitudes of other cases, all of them ever to be remembered, the noble Earl's generosity was ever ready and at the service of the community.

A man of such unbounded charity could not be otherwise than a most indulgent landlord. His tenantry everywhere had most beneficial leases, and everything was done in his Lordship's power to promote their comfort and happiness. He distinguished himself particularly by supplying with land a number of poor people on various portions of his estates, who, but for the friendly shelter he afforded them, would have been without home or livelihood; and small crofts and cottars, and colonies of settlers, were numerous over the domain.

Taking a retrospect of the many years his Lordship passed at Duff House since his coming in 1833, we had cause at different times to deplore the inroads made on his general health by accidents and other causes, thereby preventing the full enjoyment of a country life, and causing trouble from his Matagorda wound—which continued up to the close of his life—which, as that sad event approached, filled his friends with anxiety; and a prayer that one so benevolent, and who had done so much to ameliorate the sufferings of others, should be spared “those wearisome days and nights” which are frequently the lot of old age, when “we are filled with tossings to and fro till the dawning of morn.”

Up to the autumn of 1854, although the Earl had ceased to enjoy much out-door exercise, still he had all his mental faculties and reading to fall back upon, with his correspondence, mingled, however, with some harbingers of loss of memory, and other approaches of old Father Time, rendered somewhat alarming by a sudden attack of ague, and slight affection of one of his sides, but no serious change took place until April 1855, when the servant, on entering his room, found he had been visited by a rather serious attack of illness, from his apparent unconsciousness, loss of memory, &c. Happily, by the skillful treatment of his medical attendant, these alarming symptoms were got dispelled, and his strength sustained for a time. But the hand of time and the infirmity of decay inherent in our nature cannot be arrested, and it was very apparent in the feeble step of the Earl, and other symptoms that his days were numbered.

Thus his days tranquilly glided on apace, without much apparent suffering, until February 1857, when he was seized with an attack of cold, which seemed to affect his whole system, palling his relish for food, and depressing his spirits. Gradually his strength decayed; his

medical attendant carefully watched his noble patient, and alleviated by every means the progress of the last enemy, and his anxious relatives hastened to support his feelings in the mortal strife—Mr Duff and Lady Agnes Duff watching intensely the lingering efforts of expiring nature, and joining the clergyman and others present in the consoling office of prayer. Towards evening, a fresh attack of syncope appeared, then a brief space of calm unconsciousness, and crossing his hands on his breast, the great soul quitted its earthly tenement, so softly, that his last moment passed almost unperceived.

All now is over, he has breathed his last;  
His light is quenched, his tale is told;  
He joins at length, in glory unsurpassed,  
The mighty men of old.

Such is the very imperfect sketch of the life of one of the most remarkable men of our time connected with the north of Scotland, and more particularly with us, as a burghess of our royal burgh. A warrior and a courtier, a nobleman and a statesman, he yet rejoiced most of all in the title of the poor man's friend. As such, his name will go down to posterity, and the house of Fife, as it reckons up the names on its bead-roll, who, in the spirit of their motto, "Virtute et Opera," have achieved distinction and deserved well of their country, will not forget to render due honour to him whom they will designate the Good Earl James.

In the present representatives of the ancient house of Fife, the country rejoices in having an exalted successor worthy of the great and good man transferred to a brighter and far more enduring sphere of happiness. The reigning Earl does, indeed, support the dignity of his place, with all the courtesy, kindness, and generosity of his late uncle; and we may truly add that his amiable and benevolent Countess, with all her blandishments, is the very chivalry of a descendent of her own noble and princely house, following up the bright example of her illustrious cousin who adorns the throne of our great country.

To return to our own immediate object in the description of other public buildings within our bounds.

The TOWN-HOUSE was built in the end of the last century (1796). It is a large, but entirely plain building, forming two sides of a square, with a spire rising from the external angle. The spire, which is much older than the house, is a sort of fluted cone, of very graceful proportions, rising from a square tower. The whole height of the spire is 100 feet. The tower, spire, and front of the Town-house are built of dressed sandstone. The house is of three lofty stories. It contains a spacious and well-proportioned assembly-room, two large drawing-rooms, Town Council Chamber, Sheriff Court Room, Town Chamberlain's Office, and

Sheriff Clerk's Offices and Office of Sasines. The stair-case and landing places are spacious. In the Council Chamber there is a very fine painting of the late George Robinson, Esq., Provost of Banff during portions of the last century and part of this, when he was succeeded by his son, Colonel G. G. Robinson. This picture is a full length, in a sitting position, admirably executed by Moir, who was long a student in Rome. The sum of two hundred guineas was raised by subscription, and the painting presented to the Provost as a testimony of the high appreciation in which he was held by all ranks of the community of Banff.

There is TRADES' HALL, a large room, and another contains an excellent billiard table.

The NEW MASONIC LODGE is a handsome modern building, Venetian style of architecture. The lobby and double flight of stair-cases are well proportioned, making a beautiful entrance into the great hall, which is spacious and tastefully designed. Gorgeous lights are suspended from either side of the highly ornamented roof, by figures of full-sized angels, and there is a magnificent chandelier suspended from the centre. The furnishing of this room is rich and in good taste. The other apartments are commodious, and appropriate for celebrating the mysteries of the royal craft, of which we have a numerous and respectable body in this St Andrew's Mason Lodge. There is another Mason Lodge in the town, St John's, which has a hall and drawing-room, with a numerous set of brethren, of the practical order, but their building is only of mediocre architecture.

The PARISH CHURCH stands at the south side of the town, on a highly advantageous site, on a platform above the low part of the town. In its external appearance, the church is perfectly plain. The interior is sparingly but tastefully decorated. The pulpit and galleries are of uncommon height, and the whole character of the interior is in a high degree light, airy, and spacious. In the inside walls of the church are four handsome monuments of marble. One of these is a very fine piece of sculpture by Bacon. It was erected to the memory of Lieut. Peter Lawrie (a native of Banff). It represents a soldier leaning over a funeral vase in an attitude of deep grief. The figure and draperies are exquisitely carved.

Of the other monuments, one is erected to the memory of the late Mr John Cruickshank, Rector of Banff Academy, by his former pupils; another to the memory of the late Mr A. Cassie (elsewhere mentioned as a benefactor to the town), erected by subscription. The remaining monument is a private one.

The spire stands at the west end of the church, and the principal entrance to it is through the supporting tower. It is considered of very

graceful architecture, pretty similar to that on the Town-house, and was built by subscription some twenty years ago. The great bell in the tower was presented by Mr Grant Duff of Eden, who was educated at Banff Academy. The number attending church is about 700.

The EPISCOPAL CHURCH, built thirty-five years ago, is a very handsome structure. It is in the Gothic style. The west front, of dressed freestone, is flanked by two carved minarets, and otherwise chastely and tastefully ornamented. The interior is finished in an appropriate manner. The east window is glazed with coloured glass, which has a chastening, yet rich effect; and the centre is ornamented by a massive and handsome chandelier, presented by the late Earl of Fife. It also possesses a good organ. A very commodious and neat parsonage adjoins St Andrew's Church, in the Elizabethan style, of dressed freestone, with tasteful garden in front; and a fine new school, with teacher's cottage attached to it, to accommodate a hundred scholars, under the surveillance of the Government Inspector.

The whole of these buildings have been erected within the last thirty-five years at a cost of three thousand pounds, built and paid by the congregation and friends; besides, a very fair stipend to the clergyman—all which, without comment, speak favourably for the devotion, liberality, and good taste of the congregation attending St Andrew's Church, aided and supported very much of late years by the liberality of the present Earl of Fife, and Mr Morison of Bognie—the latter gentleman, to his credit be it said, without limit in his generosity. The number of the congregation amounts to 230.

The FREE CHURCH is a substantial and commodious place of worship, with handsome front of dressed freestone, and a modern dome, supported by massive pillars of Doric order, with the different entrances under the surmounting entablature. It is built to contain a numerous congregation, which it has invariably maintained since the Disruption, and its communicants are highly distinguished for their piety and liberality. A commodious school and manse are attached to the church within the same plot of ground. Number of hearers, 900.

There are other five places of worship within the burgh.

The INDEPENDENT CHURCH, in the Seatown, is commodious and well attended. 200 attendants.

Also, a UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, in the lower part of the town, was built in 1822 at an expense of £800, capable of containing 500 persons. 100 attendants.

A WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL was built here in 1820, for a congregation originally established in this town in the year 1775. It is without galleries, and cost upwards of £300, and is capable of containing 300 persons. 100 make up the present congregation.

The ROMAN CATHOLIC place of worship is of small dimension, their number being rather limited to 50 at present in the town. And

The ANABAPTISTS hold their meetings in a large hall, which accommodates them in the meantime. They are 60 in number.

Our EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS have been for many years rather distinguished in the North—at all events, since the learned Dr Chapman held his enlightened sway in his great academy at Inchdrewer Castle, and afterwards moved into town to take charge of our veritable Banff Academy, which he brought to such well-accredited notoriety; and was succeeded by his no less meritorious and successful assistant, the late Rector, John Cruickshank, who within our recollection sent so many talented men into the world to fight the battle of life, with the sinews of high education and firm discipline to guide them through its devious ways, the brilliant result of which some of us have lived to see, in the successful and honourable career of many of his pupils holding high places in the Army and Navy, Church and State, and in the humbler walks of civilian life.

Of our establishments for female education, from the beginning of the century, when the Ladies Mitchell opened their institution for the instruction of young ladies in the arts and accomplishments which grace the female mind, we have had many teachers of superior ability and equal success in that department, and none more so than the late Miss Williamson, whose seminary and boarding school was crowned with a success quite unprecedented; and now we have to congratulate ourselves on having two establishments for female education, both carried out in the highest order of accomplishments—music, languages, ornamental work, &c.—by English and foreign masters and governesses, resident for these objects alone.

OUR ACADEMY FOR BOYS is a beautiful building in the Grecian Ionic style, of chaste and classic design. The eastern façade is 154 feet in length, with a handsome portico, supported by Ionic pillars, in the centre approached by a broad flight of steps. The two side buildings and protruding wings at the extremes are adorned with pilasters and entablatures in the same taste. The situation of the building on the ascent of the south-west of the town is such as to give it every advantage, particularly when seen from the road that approaches from the south across the river, and over the trees environing Duff House Park. The tasteful plot of shrubbery and flowers tends much to beautify and enliven the approach to it from the street.

Previous to the erection of this building, the old academy stood in the Old Market Place. It was formed in 1786, under the direction of Doctor Chapman, author of a work on Education, of note at the period. The classes are taught by a rector and two masters—Latin, Greek, and

French by the rector; writing and mathematics, together with book-keeping, geography, and navigation, by one of the masters; English reading, elocution, and grammar, by the other. The whole establishment is under the control and management of the Magistrates and Town Council.

In connection with the Academy, we have two excellent establishments for the boarding and accommodation of the youth attending the Academy—the one under the administration of the Rector of the Academy, Mr Hunter, and the other by Mr Spence, chief usher, or English teacher, at the Academy. Both gentlemen are married men, and in their houses have all the appliances for comfort, cleanliness, and satisfactory domicile, for the young people committed to their charge.

The numbers attending the Academy vary from 150 to 180. There is evidence of there having been a grammar school at Banff as far back as 1554. It appears in a charter granted by the Carmelite brethren, to Sir Walter Ogilvie of Dunlugas, and witnessed, among others, by “Guillielmo Clerk, præceptore scholæ grammaticæ de Banff.”

In the great vestibule, or entrance hall of the building, is to be seen a Museum of Natural History, Antiquities, and Curiosities, which would do no discredit to Aberdeen or Edinburgh, under the curacy of a very extraordinary person in his way, and who has attracted the attention of more than one Association for the Promotion of Scientific Enquiry, Mr Edwards, the curator, having been highly honoured by being elected Associate of the Royal Linnæan Society of London, the associates of which are limited by Royal Charter of foundation to 24, arising out of his successful discoveries, and additions made by him to Natural History. The collection of shells, consisting of many thousand specimens of the rarest and most beautiful kinds to be met with in Java, and throughout the Eastern Archipelago, is well deserving of notice. There is a considerable variety of dresses, weapons, manufactures, and utensils of the natives of India and Australia; many mineral and zoological specimens, coins, idols, &c. The Institution also possesses some valuable books, among others the printed Public Records of Great Britain, presented by Government; and, for scientific purposes, they are furnished with a transit and clock, a six-foot reflecting telescope, together with an assortment of meteorological instruments from the best London makers.

Perambulating the long line of street from the Academy to the Seatown, which forms the northern division of the town, we arrive at CHALMERS' HOSPITAL. This is a handsome and extensive structure in the Elizabethan style, with imposing centre and extended wings of the same height, raised upon a slight terrace, ascended by steps, with a tasteful entrance. It has quite the appearance of Donaldson's Hospital

in Edinburgh, which is saying a good deal for a Banff building—enclosing, as it does, a quadrangle, with towers and domes at each angle, and several smaller turrets, giving a light and airy appearance to the whole fabric. The interior is most commodious, and admirably fitted up with culinary and bathing apparatus, and all the appliances of modern invention to secure cleanliness, fresh air, and exercise for the patients. There are Cholera and Fever Hospitals in buildings apart from the main Hospital. Standing, as it does, on the high ground above the Harbour, it has a very imposing and magnificent appearance from the sea and the road leading to Macduff.

Alexander Chalmers, Esq. of Clunie, long a Wine Merchant in Banff, and of the old Firm of John Chalmers & Co., General Merchants and Shipowners, left the greater part of his heritable and moveable property to be vested in Trustees, for the “founding, erection, and endowment of an Hospital and free Dispensary of medicines, for the support, cure, and relief of destitute sick paupers, lunatics, and infirm persons of both sexes, born, domiciled, and resident in any town or parish of the County of Banff, the inhabitants whereof shall make collections for the institution at their respective Parish Churches.”

The Trustees named for the management of the bequest are—The Lord-Lieutenant of the County; Member for the County; Sheriff's Depute and Substitute; Provost of Banff; Ministers of Banff, Gamrie, and Marnoch; President of Society of Solicitors; and Peter and John Cameron, Esqs.—Three a quorum.

The whole valuable property available for this charity is supposed to amount to about £70,000. It has been in full organisation for some years, under the above Trustees, with a full staff of medical officers, nurses, servants, &c., and works admirably well, and satisfactorily to the poor invalids requiring medical aid and comfort. At present, there are thirty-six patients in the Hospital.

We have to notice another public building we find opposite to Chalmers' Hospital, the endowment of which has, since its foundation in 1804, done an incalculable amount of good in affording free education to some eighty boys in reading, writing, arithmetic, navigation, Latin, English Grammar, and Church music. It is open to all poor children, under the direction of the Magistrates. The edifice is of simple architecture, yet quite substantial, and with a house for the teacher and a garden, form the establishment of **PIRIE'S FREE SCHOOL**.

In the same quarter of the town, in Castle Street, we have a new edifice opened, designated **THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION**. The building is very suitable for the purpose, with a large and well-ventilated Lecture Room.

The idea of getting up this Association suggested itself as far back



as seven years to a goodly number of the young men in the town, impressed, as many of them no doubt were, by a deep sense of their own unworthiness in the sight of God, and anxious to redeem the time by abandoning the corrupt and sinful practices which beset them, and also in the hope of leading other young men to join in forming themselves into a society for the promotion of their spiritual welfare.

For this purpose they met, once a week, in the Vestries of several Churches (to show their unsectarian feeling) for mutual edification ; but finding these, in course of time, too small for their meetings, they hired and fitted up a larger room, where they continued to meet for four years. Such, however, was the success of this most laudable undertaking, and such numbers flocking to their standard, that they resolved to erect a Hall for themselves, and the members of the Association subscribed £250 ; and after the scheme was made public, such was the sympathy and support they received that the members felt warranted in raising a suitable building to accommodate 600 to 700 persons. Contracts were accordingly entered into, and the present Hall completed, and formally opened, in the month of November 1866, by a young clergyman of the Church of England, the Rev. William Hay Macdowall Aitken, London.

Besides the Hall, which is on the ground floor, there is a Drawing-room, capable of holding 80 persons ; also, a Reading-room or Library, and other conveniences. The main objects of the Association are the moral and spiritual benefit of the young men of the town and neighbourhood ; and to prevent those coming from other quarters from being led astray, they are kindly taken by the hand, if wished, introduced to the Association, and thereby afforded opportunities for Christian friendship and sympathy, as well as mental improvement.

The members have their weekly meetings, for considering the Scriptures and delivering essays ; and also, from time to time, hold special meetings and lectures of a religious cast, which are addressed by most of the clergymen in the town, and others from a distance, and otherwise use such means as are calculated to advance the glory of God and the eternal well-being of the community.

The present number of members on the roll of the Association amount to about 60 ; and the debt on the building is £120.

The new PRISON stands in a very imposing situation in the corner of a field in the Seatown. The salubrity of the air around it is at once remarked, as blowing right off the sea, and quite free in every other direction. Its heavy architecture, surrounding high walls, and massive gateway, convey to the passer-by its full intent and purpose. It is under the management of a Board, as noted in its proper place.

One other building, which strangers and town's folk look to with

rather an anxious eye—the one for passing creature comforts as his time of sojourn may require ; the other to “taste life’s glad moments whilst the wasting taper glows”—all which may be enjoyed to the full in our magnificent Hotel, or FIFE ARMS, than which, as I before described, you will not find a more elegant or commodious north of Edinburgh, with every elegance and comfort that money can procure, capital stabling for horses, and conveyances of every description at command.

The whole range of buildings forms a great ornament to that part of the town, with the splendid emporiums for ladies’ garments, and other requisites. The whole building is of worked freestone, and of tasteful architecture.

We may notice, *en passant*, that many of the private houses lately built in the town have been designed with some degree of regard to architectural symmetry and decoration, and present rather handsome fronts.

If the situation of Banff be considered with regard to its influence on the health of the inhabitants, there are many advantages in this view which it possesses in an eminent degree. When viewed from a distance, it appears to be divided into two parts : the first, or low town, may be termed the principal body of the town, lies along the declivity towards the river ; the other, the Seatown, is on an elevated level, which terminates abruptly within a small distance of the sea. Seen from the low ground beyond the river, the Seatown appears to stand on a long ridge terminated by the Battery and Chalmers’ Hospital. The principal street runs from the Academy on the south to the Battery and Railway Station north, and makes a pleasant and healthful promenade, having a broad pavement on each side.

The streets, though composed of houses of unequal size, are generally straight, and not deficient in width ; the one just named is about half-a-mile in length. The other principal street, the Low Street, runs along the low town, from the Hotel by the Plainstones and Town-house to the Harbour.

Since the beginning of this century, the writer of this has seen the greater number of the houses in Low Street pulled down and replaced by modern buildings ; indeed, there is scarcely a house now remaining which would indicate the great antiquity of the town. Had the late Earl of Fife’s plan been carried out, we should have had an extension of the Low Street, in a direct line from the new entrance he had in view to his park, to the harbour, passing through the lower ground of the Castle, which would have made the line of street parallel with the one above. This improvement was, however, frustrated, as I have before noticed, by a party of black-nibs getting ascendancy in the Town Coun-

cil, and forcing on a sale of old Botany Bay buildings in the centre of the town, which the more patriotic part of the Magistracy, who were in the minority, had secured for that very purpose.

Another opportunity was lost for the extension of the town at a later period, when Lord Seafield, very graciously disposed, made a proposition to the Magistrates to feu off his lands all the way from the south toll-bar to the Seatown, laying out the whole plain in new streets, and a square in the Seatown fields, reserving sites for villas on the side facing Lord Fife's park. The Magistrates entered fully into the proposal, and many parties were ready to have built villas. But a lot of valuable ground, belonging to the Laird of Hatton, running right into the centre of the improvement, had to be acquired, and it was found would only be parted with at a ransom price; hence, all this improvement of the town was knocked on the head. Again Lord Seafield is disposed to feu off lands in the same locality, and something may yet be done in the way of extension.

Following the advantages of local situation, and rendering them more perfect, we have to rejoice over a sufficient supply of wholesome water, brought into the town a distance of three miles; this, with our Gas Company supplying us with superior light, excellent daily arrivals of fresh fish, and first-rate butcher-meat in half-a-dozen shops, daily open, with a well attended weekly market by country folks, with poultry, butter, eggs, fruit, and vegetables, and an abundant supply of all varieties of game in the season, the inhabitants may congratulate themselves on having a superfluity of all the good things which sweeten life, and tend to the enjoyment of health. To add to the latter, our PUBLIC BATHS, &c., are fitted up in a very convenient manner—hot, cold, shower, and tepid, at a very moderate charge—and the bath-house, a little off the route of a beautiful promenade along the line of sea-beach for a couple of miles, where is to be found a very powerful chalybeate spring, impregnated with iron, &c.; this, with a tumbler or two from the Moray Firth, makes an admirable Bridge of Allan or Cheltenham Water. What more could the invalid, the man of pleasure, or quiet citizen, desire for the attainment of health and longevity?

#### CHARACTERS AND MANNERS.

Looking to the characters and manners of our ancestors who passed "their fleeting hour" in this ancient town, it will be matter of interest and instruction to contrast the past with the present state of society. The first can only be accomplished by reference to accounts handed down to us, and by tradition. In regard to the latter, I was fortunate in having a good deal of ancient lore put into me by an old grandfather, who resided here during the century of 1700, or rather from its tenth

year, 1710, and died at the age of 96, marrying his second carissima when 92. I knew him as a hale, intelligent, old man, residing at his farm at Bachlaw (late the deer park), and quite up in all the occurrences of the century, including the demolition of the religious houses hereabout, particularly St Mary's Church, in the park, where now stands the Mausoleum; the building of Duff House, and of the Earl William of Fife taking occupancy; also, of the Earl going to Aberdeen to join the Duke of Cumberland, and of his sending a messenger to him to prepare camping ground for the English army, and give up the House of Airlie, which he then occupied for headquarters, Duff House not being finished; the period, too, when the river was our harbour, and our foreign vessels laid up for the winter in the Canal Park, now the lower part of the Earl of Fife's garden, by the bridge; his laying out Duff House Park, when there was not a tree to be seen in all the valley except the old pines at St Mary's Chapel, and in the avenue leading to the House of Airlie; and his superintending the piling of the mouth of the river, which then debouched at the centre of the bar, &c. My own father, too, was a denizen of the Royal Burgh during forty years of the same century, and from his being the only banker in it for years, had good opportunity of knowing about its inhabitants; and I myself shall soon have passed my eighty years among the good folks; hence may be privileged to say a few words in their favour, and touching their ways and means—not, however, I hope, for a moment, losing sight of the delicacy of the subject, and knowing how incompetent I am to write on such matters. It is only by such means we are able to illustrate local and family history, and throw cross-lights upon public affairs, by disintombing local records, as I have endeavoured to do, and to give publicity to the usages and actions of bygone generations. The more so has this become desirable that the spirit of inquiry has become so general, and reading in the power of every one; and I shall, in my progress, avail myself of some remarks drawn from the writings of Banff men with whom I have had the pleasure of associating in former days.

In times not long gone, our fathers had among them the Lords of Findlater and Fife, and occasionally the Dukes of Gordon. We have heard much of the splendour and hospitality brought out on the occasion of their visits; also of the lairds and ladies of smaller properties and less pretensions who owned residences in town, and graced them by their hospitality and the presence of their families during the winter, making pleasant society for themselves, and doing infinite good among the merchants and industrious classes. In after years, when times changed, these town residences became occupied sometimes by the widows of deceased lairds, or by a stray daughter left to wither on the virgin thorn. Banff, however, still continued to be the residence and occasional resort

of many genteel, opulent, and respectable families; and in few provincial towns were the inhabitants more distinguished for general information, social intercourse, and urbanity of manners, and, in their general conduct, were considered both pitiful and courteous, deserving the praise of beneficence to the poor and hospitality to strangers; and I cannot do better, I think, than illustrate in some degree what I have attempted to describe, by adding the observations and sentiments of a worthy gentleman, who resided for some years in Banff about the year 1775, as follows:—

“Before I quit the subject of my youthful days, I must endeavour to do justice to one of my earliest and best friends, William Abercromby, Esq. of Glasehaugh. Under his hospitable roof at Banff, I lived four years, being always treated as one of the family. Through this acquaintance, I had an opportunity when a youth of being introduced into good society, for my kind friend in a manner kept open house, and the best company in the north was to be found at his table. During this period, Banff was perhaps the gayest little town in Scotland. Besides many respectable residents, at the head of whom was the Countess Dowager of Findlater in the Castle, most of the country gentlemen and their families had their winter establishments in town. The Duke and Duchess of Gordon frequently made a visit to Banff for a few days.

“At that time, in 1775, Her Grace was unquestionably the most beautiful and fascinating woman in Great Britain. Mr Abercromby was one of the Duchess's prime favourites. Anxious to prove himself sensible of Her Grace's kindness, on one occasion he proposed for her gratification a novel kind of fête for a provincial town, ‘a masquerade.’ The elderly, prudent, good folks of the conclave held up their hands against such an innovation on morals and decorum, and others considered the society of Banff too circumscribed to admit of an entertainment of that sort. The Duchess, however, was of a different opinion, and thought it an admirable ploy; the wiseacres were, of course, overruled, and preparations were made on the spur of the moment.

“Mr Abercromby's town house was certainly on rather a small scale for a bal-masqué, but the principal beds were pulled down, four rooms were opened for the reception of the company, and hung with evergreens, and tastefully lighted up. The great difficulty was to procure masks, as the fête was to take place in eight-and-forty hours. Mr Imalach, an ingenious person, and bookseller, was consulted, and he undertook to furnish some sort of disguise for ‘the human face divine.’ On this occasion, my services were put in requisition, and I sat up a whole night pasting cartridge paper and noses on the wig-blocks of a barber citizen, Mr Wright. As our models were not very elegant, a great deal was left to the taste of the artists. I had the luck of making one so

extremely grotesque that it was selected by my chief (the Duke) for the character of a French cook, which His Grace personated with great humour, after having appeared for an hour or two as the Baronet of B——g, without being detected. The Duke had borrowed Sir Robert's hat and wig, of a very particular cut, as well as a suit of his apparel, and was so admirably disguised that, as he walked from the hotel to the scene of action, a few hundred yards, the town's folks, who had turned out to see the procession, actually believed they saw the knight in *propria persona*, and exclaimed, 'Look at our ain Sir Robert! he doesna fash wi' a sedan, honest man.'

"The Duchess was first a flower-girl, and changed her costume before supper for a superb court-dress. She was unmasked, and glittering in diamonds. I had read the Arabian Tales, and was transported to the regions of that fanciful work.

"I was permitted to assist at the ball, and played my part as well as I could, in the character of a country lad looking for a foot-boy's place. I even ventured to address the Duchess as a candidate, and she gave me half-a-crown for arles.

"Every one, young and old, exerted themselves to keep up the spirit of the party, and it went off with great good humour, producing shouts of laughter, hilarity, and sallies of wit and repartee. I have heard the Duchess since say that she never passed a happier evening. When people are determined to be pleased, the task is very easy."

The worthy gentleman from whose reminiscences I draw this amusing episode of Banff gala-days went into the army, I believe, through the patronage of his Chief, Alexander Duke of Gordon, and, after a time, travelled over the Continent and Italy with the late Lord Montgomery, and was on his return appointed A.D.C. to General Drummond, Commander of the Forces in Scotland, and several years after returned to Banff Castle, where he resided, dispensing his hospitalities in a most *recherché* and pleasing manner. I was then a youth at the Academy with his sons; and we boys had the range of the fine old tapestried apartments in the old Castle, as occupied by the Countess of Findlater.

Years passed over, as well as many changes in the old town. Mr Gordon had returned to the Continent, and was residing at Brussels while Napoleon had been running riot in success over Europe, and occupied a handsome mansion in one of the *Plâces*, while our troops were concentrated in and about the city, previous to the mighty and decisive struggle at Waterloo. Many of our officers had made his acquaintance, and after the defeat of the French, he kindly opened his house for the reception of our wounded countrymen, as they were brought in from the field, and his amiable lady nursed and tenderly cared for them, to

her credit be it said. His house was afterwards the rendezvous of our poets—first of Byron, and then of Sir Walter Scott—and from no one in these parts could they have learned more interesting details of events preceding and following the decisive battle of the 18th, and the entire discomfiture of the fallen Napoleon. A short time afterwards, following the eager desire of the many to view the scene of the mighty struggle, I found my way to his mansion, and having just parted with his son, Mr George Huntly Gordon, after a month's sojourn with him in Paris, I was made the more welcome guest at his table; and have cause to exult over, at this distant day, the kindness with which I was treated by his fascinating lady and himself. A passage of sociality at their board was one of enjoyment and deep interest at the time, listening to all the stirring episodes of the fight, and the hard-fought success of our brave officers, with their after sufferings, when laid on a bed of sickness from wounds. Not less interesting, though in a different feeling, was the recapitulation of the remarks made by the two great poets in their return from viewing the battle field, afterwards given to the world, as emanating from their great minds, each in its own vivid colouring and clearness of detail. Curiously enough, and to me a matter of great enjoyment, was my finding the same worthy friend at his quarters in the said city of Brussels, in the memorable year of 1830, when the French Revolution of the Barricades broke out with such bloodshed and horror in Paris, and during my stay in Brussels at this very time, the same horrors were enacted, and preparation made to assassinate the King, on the Sunday evening when he was to appear at the theatre. These were stirring times, and made an impression on the mind not easily eradicated, coupled with the melancholy and untimely fate of our countryman, Lord Blantyre, who was killed by a random shot at the close of the fight, alas! and now called up to my tablets of memory by touching on "bygone days in Banff" for your amusement. Mr Gordon was the brother of the late Rev. Abercromby Gordon, minister of Banff, of respected memory.

Let us, however, after this digression—for which we shall have excuse, as arising from our notice of a person so much connected with Banff—return to the amenities of the royal burgh, supported as they were, at the period we have had under our observation, by appliances of comfort and locomotion rather unusual in small towns—as we learn that our high class of citizens flitted about in their numerous private carriages, paying their morning visits of compliment and gratulation, and that not fewer than twenty of that description were in requisition belonging to residents, with at least half the number of another elegant mode of transit used by ladies and gentlemen, in the shape of an artistically got up "sedan chair," carried by two sturdy porters with long

poles, suspended by straps from the shoulder, *a la mode de Paris* and Edinburgh, to transport and deposit these gay ones in their several places of revelry, unruffled by atmospheric influences, but fresh from the brush and comb of the perukier and the skilful toilette of the mistress of the robes. I remember a like number of those convenient sedan chairs, and a dozen private carriages, in full occupation about the year of Waterloo, when scions of our old families returned, on peace taking place, from the Army and Navy, stirring up gay doings, and enlivening the scene with their presence, encouraged by their happy relatives and friends on welcoming them to their homes in safety. In these circles, you found a good deal of attention paid to the fashions and customs of our Southern neighbours; and no small devotion given to the pleasures of the table, and adornment of lady and gentleman; and, I must add, that fastidious mammas had too often to complain of the drawing-rooms being deserted by the gentlemen up to too late an hour, when they made their appearance "full of wine" from the festive board.

Thank goodness! a vast improvement in the latter respect has taken place in the days we live. Instead of excess, as was general, the exception is the rule, and one rarely meets with a gentleman under the influence of the rosy god on these festive occasions. And speaking for the trading community, a like moderation and abstinence from the use of intoxicating drinks is the practice, and you seldom see a thirsty soul stealing away slyly from the retired dram-shop, refreshed by what he lovingly calls "his morning." From such laudable revolution in the habits of working-men have followed the order, cleanliness, and comfort pervading that class of society. Happy looking wives and healthy children, well fed and well clothed—as one may imagine from the half-dozen well-frequented butchers' shops, and the splendid saloons of our linen drapers, replete with all sorts of gay attire for the adornment of our far-famed "bonnie lasses," and the humbler, though not less comfortable wincey dress of the thrifty housewife and the hard-worked maid of all works.

Such laudable attention to external and homely observances, form a strong presumption of the prevalence of internal religion; and, as a confirmation, we have only to remark the very regular attendance on the ordinances of Divine Worship in all churches, by old and young, and the decorous way in which the holy Sabbath is kept throughout the day, the number of our Sabbath schools and prayer-meetings, with the unquestionably devout finish at the domestic hearth.

In regard to AMUSEMENTS: In my young days, healthful amusement and recreation were considered quite essential to the well-being of the subject, as affording pleasing variety to the aged, in frequent association at the family board with a pleasing circle of friends and chance



strangers, and, after the enjoyments of the table, came the enlivening addition of the ladies at the tea-table, with cards, music, and dancing for the young people; while in public there was a constant routine of gay doings, in hunting, clubs, card clubs, balls, fortnight assemblies, concerts, often theatrical performances, sailing parties, riding excursions, pic-nics, &c.—in short, any excuse for bringing the young together, who, somehow, were more numerous in our borders than at present, probably arising from the occasional return of the young men of our head families from the army and navy and our colonies, and also when our town was not unfrequently enlivened by a regiment of soldiers quartered in it, and the gay and gallant officers flitting about and paying sweet homage to our handsome belles.

In the present day, it can scarcely be said that our people devote but a mere insignificant part of their time to amusement. It would seem as if men had become wiser, and lost relish for frivolous amusements. Elderly people, heads of respectable families, and our various professional men, still keep up the pleasure of agreeable association at their homes with genuine Scotch hospitality as of old, but never allow it to savour of excess in any way; while concerts, penny readings, soirees, and country excursions, often by railway, to a distant part of the country, make up the extent of their recreations. No such gay affair as a public ball heard of, and nothing theatrical save a sort of mimicry of the stage-performer, in an attempt to personify the varieties of reading and acting of different celebrated writings and episodes from plays, by the talent of the one professor exhibiting, making altogether an amusing medley.

The improved state of the practical arts makes every profession more difficult of acquisition, furnishes new occupation for ingenuity, new aims for mental activity, and subjects of emulation; the diffusion of knowledge has created new desires, new ideas, new sources of employment. From the increased circulation of newspapers and cheap popular works on all subjects interesting and instructive, a taste for reading has become general.

The changes, too, brought about by the Reform Bill of 1832, and the many political excitements arising in the interval, whatever may be their good or evil tendencies otherwise, have, doubtless, tended to increase or create an appetite for knowledge, there being few political questions at home.

#### THE FLOOD OF 1829.

In connection with the foregoing reference to old times, I would notice the great flood in the river Deveron in 1829. In August of that year, the heavens poured forth their torrents upon the north of Scotland

in no measured quantity, carrying, in the course of the mighty deluge, dismay, terror, and loss of property into the hearts of the inhabitants, great and small, and leaving an impression which neither change nor time can obliterate from the mind of the observer at the time.

The heat during the summer months of 1829 was unusually great, and the drought so excessive as to wither up many plants and shrubs, and burn up grass and hay, and, as the season advanced, the fluctuations of the barometer became very remarkable; and that these apparent derangements in the atmosphere arose from certain electrical changes there could be little doubt.

The heavy rains which produced the flood of the 8d and 4th August were the consequence, and every river, burn, and streamlet, rose to a most unprecedented height of waters; and in Banff, every one was astir, or, as our neighbours say, on the *qui vive*, through the eventful days of the third and fourth, and little done or talked of but the all-absorbing phases of the mighty spate, as disaster after disaster occurred.

The first fearful attraction was the Craigs of Alvah, where the Deveron enters the beautiful grounds of Duff House, under the Bridge of Alvah; above which, on the long level haughs of Sandlaw, the mighty torrent had formed a lake nearly a mile long, from ten to forty feet deep at the entrance to the Craigs. It was well for Duff House and our royal burgh that this immense body of water was so arrested, for, had it been otherwise, the disaster would have been greater. On looking towards the bridge from the Alvah side, a very small segment of it was visible; and so great was the volume of water, and its rapidity in the narrow pass among the rocks, that some aquatic birds were literally dashed to pieces by it. The crop which lay under the great lake above was, of course, almost entirely destroyed.

The bridge itself—the one grand, lofty arch—I well remember, trembled, as it were, as I crossed it to join my friends at Montcoffer; and to stand in the midst of its beautiful scenery when this mighty lake was discharging itself between the craigs, was to enjoy a spectacle of the most sublime description.

From the rocky nature of the banks for two miles down, little damage was done. But in the valley of the Park, and at Banff, the effects of the flood were severely felt.

The lower part of the town is bounded on the south by the great garden wall from the bulwark bridge to the top of Bridge Street, and, in the valley beyond, we have the gardens and Duff House. At a bend of the river at Kirkside, there was an embankment. Over it the flood poured with tremendous impetuosity, over-spreading the extensive park and lawn around the mansion, and deluging the gardens to the depth, in some places, of fourteen feet. The wall was now the only barrier

between the immense inundation above it and the low quarter of the town.

For a short time, it wonderfully resisted the weight of water that pressed upon it; but becoming impatient of restraint, burst a large breach in it, and rushed onwards into the Market Place, and right against the house I am now writing in—Old Castle Panton, built on the vaults of its ancient walls—which was then occupied by Sir Jas. Innes' (of Muirfold) daughter, the late Mrs Donaldson of Kinnairdy, being at one time the town residence of that Laird. Considerable alarm was evinced by outside lookers-on, fearing the foundations might give way; but the inmates remained so far tranquil, occupying the upper rooms, and finding egress to the town in boats plying from the public rooms in the second flat. On the second day of the flood, however, when the waters burst upwards from the vaults into the sitting-room, they were glad to be boated into drier quarters for a time. The first breaking in of the waters into the town happened at an early hour, when many of the houses were occupied by unconscious sleepers; and such of them as were in the lower apartments received the first tidings of the flood by the water rushing in upon them in bed. To think of saving furniture, where life was so immediately at stake, was impossible. Those in houses of more than one storey fled for safety to the upper rooms, and there remained, trembling with apprehension lest the foundations might be undermined; whilst those in humbler dwellings rushed to the street, many of them almost in a state of nudity; others of them, with children in their arms, were seen struggling for their lives in the midst of the raging waters.

Soon, however, the alarm was given, and down ran the citizens from the upper part of the town, mingling their shouts and exclamations of astonishment with the cries of those who wrestled with the perils of the merciless waters. Help was speedily and willingly lent; and after the fortunate rescue of the sufferers, an attempt was made to save the different property. By twelve o'clock, the flood had attained its greatest height, being 10 feet above the ordinary level of the river. The streets appeared like canals, with boats plying from house to house. Lord Fife's park and garden formed one immense lake, studded with islands and clumps of trees; and the beautiful bridge across the Deveron, though nearly engulfed, still stood the mighty force of this otherwise overpowering deluge; while the boats were sailing across the flat from Macduff to the Low Street. In the park, a number of cattle had congregated on a knoll in the midst of the waste of waters. A boat was launched, and on reaching the isolated spot, the first creature that sought safety in it was a poor hare, which had survived hundreds of its tribe. A number of rats were also collected on the knoll, but fought

shy at a passage to *terra firma*. The people and the cattle were fortunately all saved. In Duff House, I stood by the Factor, watching the moving of the waters, and saw it rush into the kitchen and low rooms to the height of four feet, so that some of the furniture had to be carried upstairs; and a tame eagle, in its house outside, was carried away and drowned.

On the arrival of the mail-coach at the bridge about the usual time, the people standing about urged the guard and coachman not to attempt to pass through the town—and the passengers wisely left them to their own devices; but they continued regardless of their counsel, and drove straight forward. On arriving at the entrance to the street, signals were made and loud cries to return; still they kept urging on the horses. But no sooner had they reached the place where the wall had burst, than coach and horses were borne away together by the raging current, and the vehicle dashed violently against the houses. The four horses immediately disappeared, but rose and plunged, and struggled long and hard for their lives; and loud were the cries of those who witnessed this spectacle. A boat came to their assistance, but the rowers succeeded in only liberating one of them, which immediately swam along the streets, amidst the cheering of the populace; but the other three sank to rise no more. By this time, the coach, with the coachman and guard, had been thrown on the pavement, where the depth of water was less; and there the guard was seen clinging to the top, and the coachman hanging by his hands to a lamp-post, with his toes occasionally touching the box. In this perilous state they remained till another boat came and relieved them, when the guard and the mails were landed in safety. Great indignation was expressed against the obstinacy which had produced this accident. Much, however, may be said in defence of the bearers of the royal mail, who are expected to persevere in their endeavours to forward the public service by post, in defiance of risk—though, in this case, their zeal was unfortunately proved to have been mistaken. On the following day, the waters abated, and the lower flats of the houses got emptied. Trouts, flounders, and eels were taken in them. The loss of property was very great, as may easily be imagined when it is stated that no less than fifty houses and seven shops, containing perishable merchandise, to a great amount, were flooded. Two men narrowly escaped drowning, their boat having been driven into a frightful vortex at the river's mouth.

#### FORMER FLOODS.

Looking back to the notable floods in the Deveron, we learn from tradition that in the last century the river had been visited with these unwelcome occurrences in the years 1789, 1768, 1772, and 1779, but

none of these appeared to have equalled that of August 1829. Some notice regarding that of 1739 is worth recording in our category of past events.

In January of 1739, and on a public market day, a great flood took place in the Deveron, when William Haddo, with two men and three women, crossing in a ferry-boat, were forced down the river by the impetuosity of the current, and carried out to sea. The two men, and two of the women, unfortunately perished; but the other woman, of the name of Shand, was miraculously saved, owing to her having a large sack of wool on her back, which buoyed her up until a Doun, or Macduff, boat reached her in the bay, and picked her up. Some will have it that she floated about during part of a day, and all the following night, but it rather appears she was rescued from her great peril almost immediately on being seen in the bay.

The dame Shand, who so narrowly escaped drowning, was the wife of a Charles Shand, residing in Macduff; they were grandfather and grandmother of the Misses Anderson of Elm Row, Edinburgh, who bequeathed to the Magistrates of Banff, as Trustees, the sum of £500, for behoof of indigent old women of good character, and who have seen better days, belonging to the town of Banff, the interest of which to be distributed in sums of £5 to each person annually.

The above Charles Shand was nephew to Provost Shand of Banff, who died in 1736, and a near relative of Mr W. Hosseack of Sandlaw.

#### BEQUESTS AND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS.

These are very numerous, and comprise the following:—

**CHALMERS' HOSPITAL** we have already so far described as to external appearance, with its £70,000 of a bequest, the building, with additions, costing about £6000.

**PIRIE'S FREE SCHOOL**, instituted in 1804, by a bequest of £1200, in favour of the Magistrates of Banff, for the free education of boys, to the number of 80, in reading, writing, arithmetic, navigation, and the Latin language, with church music, with £40 per annum of salary, a free house and garden.

**CASSY'S BOUNTY**.—Alexander Cassy, son of Bailie Cassy of Banff, and residing at the time of his death in London, left to the Provost and Magistrates of Banff the residue of his fortune, amounting to about £18,300, the interest accruing therefrom to be expended half-yearly, towards the support of poor, aged, and infirm persons, of both sexes, born within the precincts of the burgh, and helpless orphans, and other deserted children, of both sexes, born as before, all to be selected at the discretion of the majority of the Town Council.

**WILSON'S INSTITUTION**, or the Banff Academy and Infant School,

a bequest of James Wilson, a Banff man, who died in Grenada, leaving to the Magistrates of the burgh of Banff a sum of money, as a charitable fund, to be laid out by them in the best manner possible. The site, buildings, and furniture cost about £3000. The property consists of the building, of cash invested in the hands of the Banff Harbour Trust £1200, and two parks in the Gallowhill.

**WILSON'S BOUNTY.**—The late Miss Elizabeth Wilson, of Banff, assigned the whole of her estate to trustees, the Provost of Banff, the minister of the parish, &c., &c., in all amounting to £1500, the free yearly revenue thereof to be equally divided, half-yearly, amongst 12 annuitants, or six tradesmen and six unmarried females, of respectable character, who have resided in the town of Banff for twenty years. These annuitants are appointed by the Trustees, and have for some years each received an annuity of £8 sterling from this bounty.

**MISS PANTON'S ENDOWMENT.**—Miss Panton, in the years 1819 and 1823, invested a sum, amounting to £240, the interest of which, £9 12s., £2 of which goes to a school at Fraserburgh. The balance is applied by the Trustees, the Provost and Clergymen of the Established and Episcopal Churches, in aid of Pirie's School, and the Female Charity School, and in the purchase of books for poor children.

**MISS ANDERSON'S BEQUEST.**—The late Miss Margaret Anderson, of Elm Row, Edinburgh, bequeathed to the Magistrates and Minister of the Parish of Banff, for behoof of indigent old women of good character, and who have seen better days, belonging to that town, the sum of £500, to be distributed in sums of £5 to each person annually. The Trustees received £447 10s. The interest is divided among four persons.

**THE MISSES ELIZABETH AND GRACE RUSSELL'S BEQUEST.**—By deed dated 26th December 1863, these ladies bequeath £100, the interest of which to be applied in keeping in repair the tombstones and the graves of their grandfather, the late Alexander Innes of Rosieburn, and their father, the late Thomas Russell. The sum received is £89 5s. 11d. Also, one-half of the free residue of their estate, for the benefit of such charitable institutions as may be in Aberdeen or Banff, benevolent or religious purposes, or such public improvements connected with the town of Banff as may be appointed by their Trustees. And, by a codicil to the said deed, dated 8th May 1865, the said Misses Russell direct that out of said half of the residue of their estate there be paid to the Provost and Bailies of Banff, and the Ministers of the Established and Episcopal Churches, the sum of £6000, for the relief of old women belonging to the town of Banff and neighbourhood, with power to erect an Hospital for the residence of such females; and also that part of the residue be appropriated for the saving of life from ship-

wreck by life-boats ; and for the relief of sufferers, and casualties to fishermen on said coast.

**REQUESTS OF MISS STRACHAN OF CORTES.**—To the Kirk-session of Banff £50, for the keeping up of the old burying-ground of Banff ; to the Magistrates of Banff, £500, the interest to be applied annually to eke out the salary of the teacher, and purchase of books for scholars attending Pirie's Free School. To the Magistrates of Banff, £500, and the interest applied annually in supplementing the salaries of the teachers of the Grammar School of Banff. To the Minister of Banff, for the eking out of the salary of the female teacher in the Low Shore, £100 ; and another £100 for eking out salary of Mitchell's School ; to the Ministers of Banff and Episcopal Church, her house in Banff, the income from which to be applied in sending boys of the name of Strachan, Ogilvie, and Wilson, to the Grammar School.

**BEQUEST OF JOHN WATT TO CLOTHING SOCIETY.**—The sum of £100, the interest of which to be laid out in the purchase of clothes to the poor in Banff.

**ABERLOUR'S BEQUEST.**—The late Alexander Grant, Esq. of Aberlour, bequeathed to the Town Council £200, free of legacy duty, for charitable purposes.

**BEQUEST OF SHERIFF CURRIE.**—Fifty guineas, for a silver medal, as a prize to the dux of the Senior Class in the Rector's department at Banff Academy.

**BEQUEST BY WILLIAM DUFF OF MAYEN.**—The residue of his estate for the Banff Dispensary and Chalmers' Hospital, and if not required, to be applied in founding a bursary and prizes at the Grammar School of Banff. The amount of residue has not yet been ascertained, as it depends on a life insurance, the probable amount being £600 to £700.

**SESSION LANDS FOR POOR OF PARISH.**—A sum of £14 a year, arising from rents of lands and feus in the Gallowhill, which is paid over to the Poors' Board, with a sum of £3 4s. on account of Watson's Bursary at the Grammar School.

**THE BEDE HOUSE.**—A mortification for the use of poor decayed persons, left by Dr Alexander Strachan, with £44 8s. 10d., the interest of which goes to repair the house, &c.

**FUNDS FOR FEMALE EDUCATION LEFT BY THE BROTHERS WATT.**—The sum of £275, for the education of females, out of the interest of which £10 is paid to the teacher of the Ladies' Charity School.

**MITCHELL'S SCHOOL FOR FEMALES.**—A house in Reid Street, and a salary of £20 a year, left by the late James Mitchell for a Female School.

**MR JOHN WATT'S PRIZE.**—A sum of £100, the interest to be

given as a prize for knowledge of the Evidences of the Gospel Dispensation, at the examination of the Banff Academy.

**CRUCKSHANK'S PRIZE FUND.**—A sum of £50, the interest to be laid out in Prize Books for the boys at the Academy.

**COAL FUNDS.**—Various sums of money left for the purchase of coals to the poor, viz.:—From the late Mr William Finnie, £40; the late John Watt, £100; the late James Brown, sen., £200; the late James Brown, jun., £20.

**BURSARIES.**—There have, at various times, been sums of money left by parties for the purposes of education, and hence called bursaries. The following belong to the town of Banff, viz.:—

The Winchester Bursaries, 3 in number, at £2 10s. each.

The Stewart Bursary, of £600.

The Watson do., £2 15s. 8d. per annum.

The Robinson do., of £2 10s. per do.

The Heritors' Bursaries at the Academy, consisting of ten boys, selected from charity schools, a sum of £400 appropriated for that purpose.

Infirmity Funds Bursaries, amounting to £400.

Watt's Bursaries, amounting to £400.

#### MUNICIPAL STATE.

The Burgh is governed by a Provost, three Bailies, Treasurer, Dean of Guild, and three Councillors. Previous to the passing of the Reform Bill, the Provosts and Town Councils of our burghs had the power of returning our burgh member to Parliament by delegates, which invested them with no small degree of political importance. When an election took place, the Robinsons—who held sway in the Royal Burgh for some fifty years, and were men of rare calibre, I may safely say, and great allies and supporters of the House of Fife, and anxious to keep up their political influence—not satisfied with the supremacy they had in their own burgh, made themselves dominant in the burghs of Inverurie and Kintore, to the no small annoyance of the Lord of the Manor. They were also in Cullen pretty well up, and had many supporters in Elgin. To secure and render permanent their ascendancy in the two former places, they took the trouble and were at the expense of sending respectable parties to take domiciles, and suitable accommodation to carry out their own great manufacturing concerns as branches, and succeeded in getting them elected Bailies and Councillors, thereby keeping alive the hold they had obtained, and so were ready to give fight when a contest arose, playing into the hands, as it were, of the ruling power of our burgh. During many years, the Robinsons gave employment in their great thread and stocking manufactories to not fewer than 1500 of



our population in the towns and villages. They had waggons constantly conveying their goods from this to Nottingham, where a branch of their house was established. They had four magnificent London smacks, after the model of the Berwick, in constant traffic, three of them in the time of war armed to the teeth with guns, and well trained seamen otherwise in the cutlass and firelock, carrying their salmon to the London market, with other articles of produce; and many people, all over the North, knowing this, and the attention paid to cleanliness and comfort on board these vessels, resorted to our port to take passage for London instead of embarking at Aberdeen. They also had the lease of the salmon fishings in the river and sea, for which they paid Lord Fife £2000 per annum; and I once knew them, at the expiry of a lease, have to pay down five thousand pounds of a grassum ere they got a renewal. They were great agriculturists, and carried on farming to a great extent. On one farm in this neighbourhood, one of the sons laid out a sum of £7000. Besides these widely extended branches of trade, I may here quote from a writer of statistics in the end of last century, who states that, for the Robinsons' Thread Manufactory, above 3500 mats of Dutch flax were annually imported, which, at an average of £3 5s. each, cost upwards of £11,000 sterling. The operation of milling and heckling employed about 60 men; and, when given out to spin, it afforded employment for 4000 individuals, yielding 150,000 spindles of yarn, which circulated about £10,000 among the spinners. The doubling and twisting the yarn, which was done in Banff, employed about 200 women and children, and, at the bleachfield, engaged the labour and attention of 40 people more. These threads, when sent to Nottingham or Leicester, were valued at not less than £30,000.

In the domestic circle, the Robinsons ranked high, and certainly kept up the character of our town for hospitality. Old Mr Robinson came to Banff from about Nottingham, to join his uncle, Mr Robinson of Gask, who, I before noticed, had been brutally slain at his own threshold. He married the daughter of a Mr Garden, in whose father the Provostship of Banff was vested in 1730. They had a large family of sons and daughters. The two eldest sons, on finishing their education, as was fashionable in the last century, made the tour of Europe, accompanied by a person very learned in foreign languages—the elder brother of the Mr Cassie who left the £20,000 to the poor of Banff—so we may suppose these gentlemen well qualified to take their position in home life, the elder, so long Provost of the town, on the retirement of his father; and the other directing their great business. Both families did the hospitable in a style and kind urbanity which astonished strangers who came to the town; while at home their mansions were the resort of the aristocracy of the land, the old gentleman having among his fast

friends the Duke Alexander of Gordon, the patriotic Earl of Findlater, and the Earls of Fife, &c. But, like numerous other families, it is almost without a representative in the town, and makes us exclaim—"What a change fifty or a hundred years makes in our social circles." I, who am not quite an octogenarian, have seen four representatives of the Dukes of Gordon, four Earls of Fife, four of the house of Findlater and Seafield, four of the Lord Banff Family, four of the Gardens of Troup, four of the Gordons of Park, &c., all more or less connected with the town; and where are our own great denizens who held a dignified place among us?—the Duffs, the Diroms, the Gordons, the Donaldsons, the Youngs, the Ogilvies, the Shands, the Gardens, the Abercrombies, the Forbesses, the Innesses, the Saunderses, the Urquharts, the Alexanders, the Cassies, the Grants, the Reids, the Abernethys, the Strachans, the Kyles, the Lawties, the Bartlets, the Roses, the Souters, the M'Killigins, the Robertsons, the Gilberts, the Chalmers, the Wilsons, the Cordiners, the Bruces, the Russells, the M'Kenzies, the Smiths, the Wisemans, the Williamsons, the Cruickshanks, the Camerons, the Pringles, the Leslies, the Imlachs. Alas! many of them in our old kirkyard.

Banff being the county town, and therefore the seat of the Sheriff Courts for the county, it may be proper to notice that the Society of Solicitors of the county was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1840, and the Society has a free fund of upwards of £2000. The solicitors have a good library. The Court House is at present quite unsuitable for the business of the Court; but arrangements are presently in progress for the erection of a new and handsome building on a site on Low Street, nearly opposite the Fife Arms Hotel. It may also be proper to mention that there is a Public Library in the town, consisting of about 3000 volumes.

The industries of the town may be said to be comprised in the Banff Foundry, and the Brewery, and Ropework, all of which have been established for many years; and a Woollen Factory, commenced during the present year. There are also two shipbuilding establishments. The Banff Distillery is just on the confines of the town. The Coast-guard have a station in the Town Battery; and the commanding officer of the district, which extends from Pennan to Burghead, has his residence in the town.

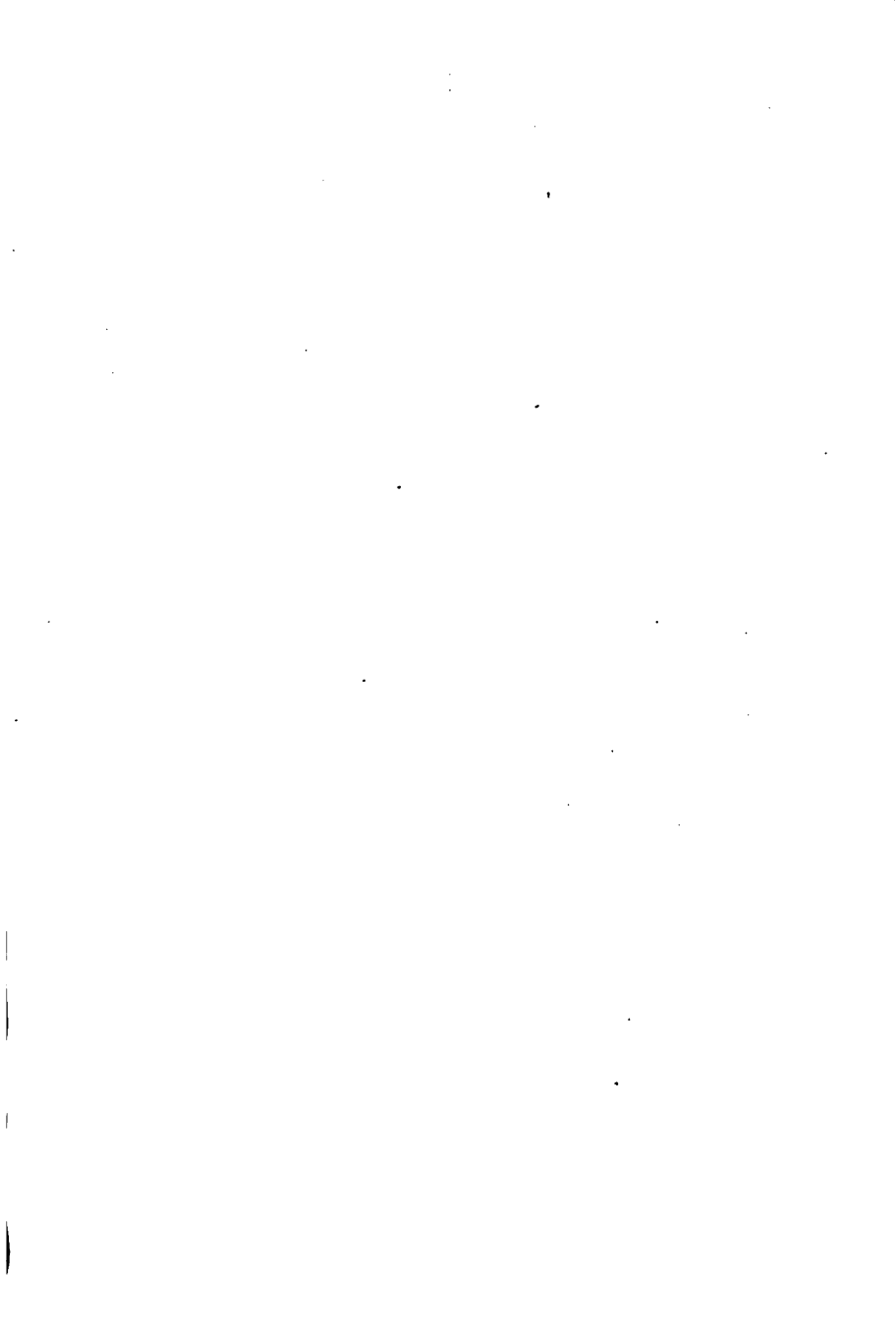
The port of Banff extends from Garmouth on the West to a place called Powkburn, one mile to the east of Old Aberdour Church, and the Custom House is situated in the town. The present harbour of Banff was so far completed in 1775. In 1816, a new pier and breakwater was constructed by the late Mr Telford, at an expense of £20,000. A vessel drawing twelve feet of water can enter the new basin at high water; and a vessel drawing fifteen feet at spring tides. A Morton's patent slip apparatus, fit for taking up vessels of 300 tons, has been in use for many years at the harbour.

# LIST OF PROVOSTS OF BANFF

## FROM 1689.

Alexander Leslie, ... 1689 to 1692  
 Walter Stewart, ... 1692 to 1695  
 Alexander Leslie, ... 1695 to 1705  
 Robert Saunders, ... 1705 to 1708  
 John Mark, ... 1708 to 1715  
 Robert Stewart, ... 1715 to 1718  
 William Scott, ... 1718 to 1721  
 Robert Stewart, ... 1721 to 1724  
 William Scott, ... 1724 to 1727  
 George Gairden, ... 1727 to 1729  
 James Shand, ... 1729 to 1732  
 William Scott, ... 1732 to 1735  
 Alexander Innes, ... 1735 to 1738  
 Patrick Forbes, ... 1738 to 1741  
 Alexander Innes, ... 1741 to 1744  
 James Innes, ... 1744 to 1748  
 Alexander Innes, ... 1748 to 1750  
 James Innes, ... 1750 to 1753  
 Alexander Innes, ... 1753 to 1756  
 James Bartlett, ... 1756 to 1759  
 Alexander Innes, ... 1759 to 1761  
 James Shand, ... 1761 to 1764  
 Patrick Duff, ... 1764 to 1767  
 Alexander Dirom, ... 1767 to 1770  
 James Shand, ... 1770 to 1773  
 Patrick Duff, ... 1773 to 1776  
 Alexander Dirom, ... 1776 to 1779  
 John Innes, ... 1779 to 1782  
 James Shand, ... 1782 to 1784  
 George Robinson, ... 1784 to 1787  
 John Innes, ... 1787 to 1790  
 George Robinson, ... 1790 to 1793

Geo. M'Killigan, ... 1793 to 1796  
 George Robinson, ... 1796 to 1799  
 George Garden  
     Robinson, ... 1799 to 1802  
 George Robinson, ... 1802 to 1805  
 George Garden  
     Robinson, ... 1805 to 1808  
 George Robinson, ... 1808 to 1811  
 George Garden  
     Robinson, ... 1811 to 1814  
 George Robinson, ... 1814 to 1817  
 George Garden  
     Robinson, ... 1817 to 1820  
 George Robinson, ... 1820 to 1823  
 George Garden  
     Robinson, ... 1823 to 1826  
 George Robinson, ... 1826 to 1828  
 George Garden  
     Robinson, ... 1828 to 1831  
 Jas. M'Killigan, ... 1831 to 1833  
 Peter Cameron, ... 1833 to 1838  
 Geo. Alexander, ... 1838 to 1840  
 T. H. Richardson, ... 1840 to 1844  
 William Scott, ... 1844 to 1850  
 Judicial Managers, 1850 to 1851  
 William Scott, ... 1851 to 1853  
 Robert Duncan, ... 1853 to 1859  
 Thomas Adam, ... 1859 to 1860  
 Robert Duncan, ... 1860 to 1863  
 Thomas Adam, ... 1863 to 1867  
 James Wood, ... 1867





A. RAE & SON,

OLD GRAVE-YARD, BANFF.

BANFF.

**CHRONICLES**

**OF THE**

**OLD CHURCHYARD OF BANFF.**

**"My thoughts are with the dead ; with them  
I live in long past years ;  
Their virtues love, their faults condemn,  
Partake their hopes and fears ;  
And from their lessons seek and find  
Instruction with a humble mind."**

**SOUTHEY.**

# CHRONICLES

## OF THE

### OLD CHURCHYARD OF BANFF.

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"In the midst of life we are in death."

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From the public records, it appears that the Kirk of Banff was rebuilt by the Town Council in the year 1471, when Sir James Ogilvie of Deskford was Provost.

They endowed a Chaplain, with ten merks of stipend, besides a living, out of the common good or fund. Before this period, the Chaplainry of St Mary, of the order of Carmelites, was the only other establishment of worship within the royalty.

The parishes of Banff and Inverboindie continued united till the year 1634, when Mr Alexander Seton, then minister, brought an action of valuation and modification of the teinds against the heritors, by which the union was declared void, and each holden to be a separate parish and distinct congregation.

The first minister of this parish, after its disjunction from Boyndie, was Mr Alexander Seton, who died in 1679. The next was Mr Patrick Innes, who died in 1699. His successor was Mr William Hunter. In 1712, he was suspended from preaching, in consequence of refusing to take the oath of abjuration. The following year, he, however, returned to his charge, and died in 1716. Mr James Innes was admitted in 1716, and died in September 1753. In December following, Mr Robt. Trail was admitted, and in October 1761 was preferred to the Divinity Chair in the University of Glasgow. He was succeeded by Mr Andrew Skene, who died at Bath in December 1792. Mr Abercromby Gordon succeeded him in August 1793, and died 12th March 1821. The Rev.



Francis William Grant succeeded him in 1821, and retired at the Disruption, when the Rev. Robert Bremner was appointed to fill the vacant living.

The old kirk and its yard, with which our attention is to be engrossed, was unroofed and pulled down about the end of last century. The ancient aisle, the burying-place of Lord Banff's family, is the only part of it remaining, and some monuments which were built up on the inside walls when the Church was occupied. They are monuments of the Bairds of Banff and Auchmedden, of the Inneses of Rosieburn, and of the Russells of Mountcoffer, &c.

The Churchyard, of course, continued to be the burying-place of the inhabitants of the town, and also of a good many families from Macduff, who possessed right of interment in Banff.

Being a spot of deep interest to our citizens, and to many at a distance who had the remains of dear relatives consigned to their narrow resting-place within its borders, after the demolition of the old church, the monuments and burial-ground were carefully looked after, and a desire arising among some individuals of taste to have a little ornamentation extended to the other, in flower-plots, shrubs, and gravel walks, a subscription was set on foot for that purpose, and carried into effect about the year 1815. Some years further on, I had the joint charge of it, when it was in great order, and soothing so far to those at home, and to others coming from a distance, to view the resting-place of their ancestors. At that period, a gentleman from London happened to be in the north taking sketches of all the principal towns for publication, and on my taking him to view our churchyard, as a sight, he was very much astonished, and said, "it afforded a most favourable specimen, on a small scale, of what may be called churchyard gardening, very tastefully laid out." He afterwards presented me with a sketch of it in colour, which may be seen in Mr Leask's library.

From various causes, it afterwards became neglected, chiefly from want of steady funds to carry it out; and, after a series of years, the neglect, desolation, and difficulty of getting access to the burial-places of individuals from weeds and dilapidated monuments, attracted general attention and animadversion, more especially that of a worthy lady, who, although not born herself in Banff, had passed the earlier and greater part of her life within its walls, and had seen her parents, brother, and relatives all consigned to its hallowed precincts, essayed a mode of restoring it to order, and generously proffered to head a subscription for that praiseworthy purpose. The result was that a sum of £400 was raised, with which a new and substantial wall and tasteful railing, two very handsome and well-designed gates, and artistic lamp-posts, have been reared in the place of the old dilapidated walls, and the

interior put in beautiful order, by laying out well-gravelled walks, ornamented with parterres of flowers. All the monuments have been cleaned, and so restored to the beautiful, chastened, and tenderly cared-for appearance that it wore on the occasion of the admiration expressed by our stranger Englishman half a century back; and strange, though sad! just at the very time the finishing hand had placed the last ornamentation to the hallowed spot, the death of the good old lady occurred (at the ripe age of ninety) who had suggested these improvements, and her remains consigned to the kindred dust of her ancestors.

While these necessary renovations and improvements were in progress to bring the old place into satisfactory order, it is pleasant to record the very generous concession and gift made by the Earl of Fife, who, to his credit be it mentioned, on representation being made to him, that, to perfect these alterations, the appearance would altogether be so improved, if the clearing away of a line of ancient and rather ruinous looking houses belonging to his Lordship could be accomplished, bordering the west side of the enclosure. This he immediately ordered to be done, and the whole property handed over to the Magistrates for the avowed purpose, as a grant from him to enable the Committee to carry out their plans.

Arrived at this portal, let us enter the sacred resting-place of the respected dead. Looking upwards to the portal we are about to enter, the eye is arrested by a carved entablature, showing the Douglas emblem of the heart, with the following inscription in Latin: "Doctor Alex. Douvglas, Banfiæ, Præfectus et vice Comitatus Commissarius hoc opus erexit, anno dom. 1.6.5.8"—indicating that the Provost Douglas had erected this portal, which of course was the ancient arched gateway which led into the churchyard and burying-ground.

This high dignitary, filling the responsible offices of Commissary of the County and Provost of Banff, appears to have been a person of exalted birth and high attainments, not improbably a descendant of the great Douglas, to whom King William the Lion granted the "tofts and garden," in the burgh of Banff, A.D. 1165, and similar gifts to him in the towns of Inverness, Nairn, and Cullen, all royal burghs. At all events, we know that he was of the Douglasses of Pittendrich, of the Morton branch of the house; and, alas! we know that he met with a most untimely fate on the streets of Banff by a savage and revengeful monster, who stabbed the worthy Commissary as he was passing along. At what period of the day the murder took place has not been handed down to us. But the marvel is, how the wretch escaped the hands of justice, as 'tis said he did. It appears he was a person from the land of Sir Ernst Gordon of Park, about ten miles from the town, who had in all probability taken umbrage at some judgment against his interest by

the Commissary. Hence his vengeance, by carrying into effect his malicious and diabolical purpose.

Another memorial which appears outside the walls is that to the Archbishop Sharp's family, which is so far a renewal of that which was inscribed on the monument inside the churchyard, and is to the following purport:—"In this cemetery are interred the remains of Robert Sharp, of Ordens, married to the daughter of Mr Leslie of Kininvie, Provost of Banff, and the father of Dr James Sharp, Archbishop of St Andrews, who was born in May 1613, in the Castle of Banff, the residence of the family, and basely murdered on the third of May 1679. Also Robert Sharp, Sheriff-Clerk of Banffshire; his spouse, Janet Abercromby of Birkenbog; Mrs Anne Hamilton, his niece, and other descendants of that family. The above inscription was renewed, and the present enclosing walls erected by public inscription, in the year of our Lord 1864." Archbishop Sharp was the son of Mr Sharp, Sheriff-Clerk of Banffshire. His mother was a daughter of the Laird of Kininvie. He was born May 1613, in the Castle of Banff. It is unnecessary to give any notice of his life here, as it is to be found in print in various shapes.

We now come to the old aisle, which contains the remains of the Ogilvies of the House of Banff, and we find a monument of considerable antiquity, with the following inscription:—"Ano. Dni. 1558, 29 Nove. Obiit. Valterus Ogilvy de Dvnlvgus, Miles, Proposta, Hujus. Urbis, &c.;" and whose history we have already given in its proper place, in the history of the town.

#### THE GARDENS AND THE ROBINSONS.

Under the Gothic window of this aisle, surrounded by an iron railing, we come upon the gravestones of the Gardens, who in the early part of 1700 were among the Chiefs of the town, the father as Provost of the burgh. The inscriptions run thus—

1. In memoriam Georgii Garden, et Uxoris ejus Christiana Mar, ille obiit. A.D. 1673, hoc 1680, futo cessit.

2. In testimonium filiarorum alii sui erga progenitores animi, et preservandum earum memoriam, viz. :—Geor. Garden et Chris. Mar, patris item, qui obiit Ap. 28, Anno 1704; et Christianæ Tynet, quæ decessit Feb. 3, 1698; dein Trium Sorarum et unii Fratris; Insuper filiolæ meæ Joannæ, qui obiit Sept. 23, 1706: Hunc cippum erexit Georgius Garden, qui quoque Fatis cessit. Which may be translated—In testimony of his filial affection for his Ancestors, and in order to preserve their memory, viz. :—George Garden and Christina Marr, his Grandfather and Grandmother; also, of his Father, who died Ap. 28, 1704; and

Christina Tynet, who died Feb. 3, 1698; also, of my three Sisters and only Brother; also, of my little Daughter, Joanna, who died Sept. 23, 1706: George Garden erected this Monument, who also died . . .

3. Quo intemeratæ muneant reliquæ Georgii Garden, Hujus civitatis Præpositi, qui obiit 10th July 1737, Ætat 55; et liberarum ejus Christiæ, Georgii, Jacobi, Joannæ, Annæ, Roberti, Johanni, et Elspetæ Gardns, hunc cippum Filius ejus alter Georgius Solus superstes ponrundum curavit. Quod mortale fuit Christianæ Gray, G. Garden, Præpositi uxoris quæ obiit 12 Martii 1749, huc sepulcro manet. Which may be translated thus—The remains of George Garden, Provost of this Town, who died 10th July 1737, aged 55; also, his Children, Christina, George, James, Joan, Anne, Robert, John, and Elspet Garden. The mortal remains of his Wife, Christian Gray, who died 12th March 1749, are also buried here.

4. Sacred to the memory of George Garden, Esq., who died 17th January 1786, aged 72; also, his Spouse, Joanna, Daughter of Archd. Dunbar of Tillynaught, died July 4, 1769, in the 67th year of her age.

5. Bathia Garden, Wife of George Robinson, Provost of Banff, died 16th January 1825, aged 81; also, her Spouse, George Robinson, Provost of Banff, died 18th October 1827, aged 84; and their Son, George Garden Robinson, Provost of Banff, died at Banff 16th July 1844, aged 78 years; with his beloved Spouse, Susanna Keyworth, Daughter of Henry Keyworth, Esq. of Timberland, Thorpe, Lincolnshire, and their Children, Garden, Amelia, and Eliza Anne. Also interred here—William Robinson, Esq.; Colonel James Robinson; John Joseph Robinson, Esq.; Jane Robinson; Anne Robinson, Spouse of Dr Williamson; and Elizabeth Robinson, Sons and Daughters of George Robinson, Provost of Banff, and Bathia Garden, his Spouse.

The above shows the connection of the Robinsons with the Gardens.

We notice in the curious old pedigree granted by the nobles of this part of the country and the dignitaries of the town to Dominus Walter Ogilvie, in Lamoski, Poland, on 20th April 1718, and the original of which is in the Council Chamber, that George Garden is one of the Magistrates bearing testimony to the diploma, and, in all probability, a cadet of the house of James Garden of Gairden, whose daughter was spouse of James Earl of Findlater, Lord of Deskford and Cullen.

The Provostship of the town appears to have been vested in these two families longer than in any other. Mr Souter of Strocherie is the only male representative of the Robinson family in this part of the country; and George Robinson, banker in Bombay, son of a brother of George Garden Robinson, late Provost of Banff; and, in England, the Rev. James F. Bartlet, son of Mary Robinson, daughter of the late George Garden Robinson, Provost of Banff.

On the remaining wall of the old church, appears within a Gothic arch—the monument of the Bairds of Auchmedden—a warrior at full length, recumbent, with the inscription—An. Dom. 1636. Positum a Georgio Baird de Auchmedden, Præposito Burgi de Banff, in honore Dei, et in memoria prædecessori quorum corpora, in die resurrectionis, hic sepulta jacent.

The history of this family is also fully detailed in the annals of the town of Banff.

#### INNESES OF ROSIEBURN, AND RUSSELLS OF RATHEN.

Another imposing monument on the same wall attracts our attention :—To the Memory of Alexander Innes of Rosieburn, third son of John Innes of Edingight, who died 16th April 1761, aged 60; and of his spouse, Katherine Abercromby, second daughter of Alex. Abercromby of Glasshaugh, M.P., who died the 8th October 1784, aged 76. Sacred also to the Memory of their son, Thomas Innes of Rosieburn, who died the 24th August 1784, aged 35 years. Sacred also to the Memory of John Russell, Post-Captain in the Royal Navy, eldest son of Thomas Russell of Rathen and Ann Innes of Rosieburn, who died at Aberdeen, 16 Oct. 1813, aged 45 years. To the Memory of John Russell of Rathen, second son of Patrick Russell of Mountcoffer, who died 3d May 1755, aged 55; and of his spouse, Margaret Calder, eldest daughter of Sir Thomas Calder of Muirtown, Bart., who died 1st July 1770, in her 56 year. Katherine Russel, daughter of John Russel of Rathen, and spouse of Jo. Hay, 3rd son of Andrew Hay of Monblairy, died 12th Augt. 1755, and buried in the church of Alvah. The remains of Mr John Hay, who died in London, 1755, are interred in St Bartholomew's Church. Sacred also to the Memory of Anne Innes of Rosieburn, spouse to Thomas Russel of Rathen, who died 13 Nov. 1814, aged 67; and of Thomas Russel of Rathen, who died 12 April 1827, in his 85 year. Sacred to the Memory of the Sons and Daughters of the late Thomas Russel of Rathen and Anne Innes of Rosieburn, his spouse, all buried here :—Mary Russell, died at Aberdn. 14 March 1814; James Russel, N.K., died at Devon, 27 Feby. 1829; Helen Russel died at Aberdn. 23 March 1838, aged 59; Catherine, wife of Geo. Russel of Skelmuir, died at Aberdn. 28 March 1844, aged 69; Alitha died at Aberdn. 22 July 1849, aged 67; Margt. died at do., 8 July 1851, aged 74; Jane Maxwell, wife of the Revd. James Cordiner, died at Aberdn. 14 Augt. 1854, aged 67; Elizabeth died at Aberdn. 14 Octr. 1865, aged 82 years; Grace died at Frasersbgh. 21 April 1866, aged 78.

The last two ladies of this family whose names are inscribed on the above tablets as Miss Elizabeth Russell, who died at Aberdeen 19 Octr. 1865, aged 82 years; and Miss Grace Russell, who died at Fraserburgh

21 April 1866, aged 78 years, at their death, bequeathed to the poor of Banff the sum of six thousand pounds sterling, as detailed in the list of charitable bequests in the history of the town; also a sum of money to keep this family monument in repair, which may prove sufficient excuse for this lengthened pedigree of the clan.

Interred here, Alexander Innes of Rosieburn, Provost of Banff, who died 16 April 1761, aged 60; Thomas Innes, his son, died 24 Aug. 1784, aged 35; Katharine Abercromby, spouse to Alexander Innes, and mother to Thomas Innes, died the 8th of Octr. 1784, aged 76; Helen Innes, daughter of Provost Innes, died at Banff 21 March 1829, aged 91 years, is also interred here; Abercromby Russell, son to Capt. Thos. Russel of Rathen, died 15 June 1792, aged 16 years; Alexander, of the Custom House, London, died at Brompton 4 April 1793, aged 24; Thomas died in Martinico July 1794, aged 22; Errol, Lieut. of Marines, died July 1795, aged 22; Boddam, Midshipman R.N., died at sea 31 Octr. 1797, aged 16—all sons of Thomas Russell of Rathen and Mrs Anne Innes of Rosieburn, his spouse.

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Sacred to the Memory of Stewart Souter, Esq. of Melrose, who died 11 July 1839, aged 75 years; and of his spouse, Mary Robinson, daughter of George Robinson, Esqr., Provost of Banff.

[Mr Souter married the daughter of the late George Robinson, Esq., Provost of Banff. He came from Forfarshire to Banff, at the invitation of James, third Earl of Fife, in the last century, and, with Mr Rose of Mountcoffer, had the management of the Fife Estates, which at that period were yearly progressing in value and extent. On the retirement of Mr Rose from the business, the Earl, finding Mr Souter so highly qualified by business habits, extensive knowledge of country affairs, and general intelligence, appointed him chief factor over the property; and so admirably and satisfactorily did he administer this charge that he was chosen Chief Commissioner over the Trust for the consolidation of these estates, which he retained up to the period of his death—unquestionable evidence that he was a person of no common ability. Mr Souter left a family of three sons and two daughters. Two of the sons were Writers to the Signet in Edinburgh. The eldest, James, married Miss Carnegie, of Lure and Turin; the second, Francis George Souter, married Miss Horn, of Edinburgh; the third, Mr Souter of Strocherie (the only survivor of the family), married Miss Smith, of Berdle Hall, Northumberland; Miss Souter was married to John C. Brodie, Esq., Crown Agent in Edinburgh, and of the house of Sir W. Gibson-Craig & Co., Edinburgh; and Miss M. C. Souter was married to James Campbell Brodie, Esq. of Lethen and Coulmony, Nairnshire.]

## STRACHAN OF CORTES.

Coming outside the walls of the old church, the eye is attracted by an urn-like monumental erection, elevated above the other slabs. It is of Aberdeen granite, and highly polished, and we read the following inscriptions :—

“ In memory of James Strachan of Cortes, M.D., Inspector-General of Army Hospitals, who died at Mormond House on the 20th Dec. 1840, aged 65 years. This testimonial of affectionate regard is erected by his only sister Margaret Strachan.”

“ Margaret Strachan of Cortes died at Mormond House, Aberdeenshire, 26th March 1867, and is here interred.”

There are two very ancient gravestones within the same enclosure, viz. :—

“ Here lie the ashes of James Ogilvie, Bailie in Banff, who was born December 1647, and died July 5th, 1731; and also Margaret Greig, his spouse, who died                      in the                      year of her age; with their children, George, James, Christian, and Janet Ogilvie; and of Alexander Strachan, who died in the year 1770; and of Ann Ogilvie, his spouse, who died in the year 1763.”

“ In memory of Alexander Strachan, Junior, who died 15th October 1797, aged 18; Alexander Strachan, Senior, who died 29th December 1812, aged 72; and of Jane Wilson, his spouse, who died 4th June 1816, aged 76.”

[James Strachan, son of Alex. Strachan by his wife, Anne Ogilvie, was born in 1775, and claimed kindred with the House of Findlater, which appears to have been acknowledged in so far as that Mr Ogilvie, clergyman at Ordiquhill, and son of a Banff magistrate, one day, on going to Cullen House to visit Lord Findlater, took with him his cousin, James Strachan, then a boy. The result of this visit was that Lord Findlater presented young Strachan with one of the Redhythe Bursaries at Fordyce School and King's College, Aberdeen, and in the presentation it was gratifying to the youth's family to find that the generous Earl acknowledged the kinship, by designating Strachan, in the deed of presentation, as “ my cousin, James Strachan.” After completing his studies, Strachan was apprenticed to Dr Gauld, surgeon in Banff, and afterwards entered the army as surgeon. He served in Ireland, at Walcheren, and in America (where he attracted the notice of Sir James M'Gregor, who was ever a steady friend), and also in India. Dr Strachan rose in his profession, and, before leaving the army, had been for some years Inspector-General of Army Hospitals. He finally retired about 1832, and

took up his residence in Banff with his sister. In 1835, the estate of Cortes, in Buchan, came into the market for sale; it was the property of John Gordon of Cairnbulg, and the Doctor became the purchaser at £23,000. While the Doctor was abroad, Miss Strachan lived with her parents, of whom her father died in 1812, and her mother in 1816. His sister accompanied the Doctor to Cortes, but he did not live long to enjoy his property, and died on 20th December 1840. His sister, Miss Strachan, succeeded to the property; and who, besides many gifts in her lifetime, at her death left, as is noticed in the list of the Banff Charities, £1250 for various benevolent purposes in the town.]

#### PROVOST MARK AND PROVOST DIROM.

Further to the eastward of the Churchyard, and within an enclosed Mausoleum, we find the resting place of the Diroms, marked by two grave-stones, bearing the following inscriptions:—

*Sub hoc cippo sepulchrati condantur cineres Joannis Murk, qui ætas ceasit 16 die Feby. 1731, ætatis suæ 75; nec non cineres generosæ Kathorine Russell conubia Jacobi Mark, Prætoris, quæ obiit Novr. 1730, cum his ejus liberis Joanna Helene!*

The other grave-stone is Sacred to the Memory of Alexander Dirom, Esq. of Muireask, who was often Chief Magistrate of Banff, and died here universally regretted in the 62 year of his age, on 31 Janry. 1788; Likewise, interred here, the Bodies of Mary Mark, his Spouse, who died 8 January 1754, and of John Dirom, their Son; also, John Dirom, Esq., October 19th, 1788, aged 61.

[Mr Alexander Dirom was Laird of Muireask, near Turriff, and occupied a town-house in Banff, on the site of which the present North of Scotland Bank is built. He had also the farm of Sandlaw as a recreation.

[Mr Dirom was brought up as a solicitor in Edinburgh. He married and settled in Banff. His lady was a daughter of Dr Fotheringham of Pourie. The mother was youngest daughter of Skene of Skene. Mr and Mrs Dirom had four children, one son, the late Lieutenant-General Dirom, of Mount Annan, and three daughters. The second daughter married Captain George Duff, of the R.N., son of James Duff, Esq., Banff, and who fell gloriously fighting at the Battle of Trafalgar. Mr Dirom was for many years Sheriff-Substitute of the County of Banff, and, being Provost of the Burgh, had long the chief influence in the management of its affairs. He was a man of learning, and took great delight in agriculture and gardening. He died in Banff in 1788. His only son, Alexander, was born in Banff 1757, but owing to his original destination for the profession of the law, he did not enter the army till 1778.



[After serving for a year at home, he was sent out to Jamaica, where he remained till 1784, under the command of General Darling and General Campbell. Here his amiable disposition and officer-like conduct, joined to a person and address remarkably attractive, quickly gained him promotion. He was first appointed Brigade Major, and afterwards in succession Military Secretary to the Governor, and Deputy Adjutant-General, acting as the head of that department in Jamaica.

[When he left the island, his services were acknowledged in the handsomest manner by the Colonial Assembly, who presented him with a sword of the value of £200, and strongly recommended him to Government for promotion. Before his return to England, he had attained the rank of Captain, and in 1786 was removed to the 52d Regiment, then serving in the East Indies. The estimation in which he was held may be judged of from the terms in which Mr Dundas, who was head of the Indian department, recommended him to the Secretary of War:—"The sooner you will remove him," said he, "to one of the regiments which I hope we shall effectuate to remain in India, I shall be the more obliged to you, for from the character I have of him from every quarter, I have no hesitation in wishing him to be where I may be supposed to be most interested."

[That this earnest and flattering recommendation of Captain Dirom was not founded on a mistaken view of his qualifications, was proved by the subsequent gallant and exemplary conduct in India, where, being raised to the rank of Major, and appointed Deputy Adjutant-General, he rendered essential service, under the command of Lord Cornwallis, in the campaign against Tippoo Sultan, and which he subsequently published in a very interesting and highly popular narrative.

[He returned to England in 1792, and married Miss Pusley, of Mount Annan, and thus became a proprietor in the county of Dumfries, which he afterwards so much benefited by his patriotic and benevolent exertions.

[In 1793, he rose to the rank of Colonel, and was appointed Deputy Quartermaster-General, and placed at the head of that department in Scotland.

[His active and public-spirited mind was constantly employed in judicious schemes for the national welfare. He executed, under the orders of Government, a military survey of the west coast of Scotland, and, in conjunction with Mr Telford, the engineer, he surveyed the country between Carlisle and Portpatrick.

[In 1811, General Dirom was appointed to the command of the North-west District, and took up his head-quarters at Liverpool. While he held this highly responsible station, he gained general approbation, and was universally respected. In 1814, he retired with his family to

Mount Annand, where he devoted himself to the useful and patriotic employment of a country gentleman. He encouraged every scheme calculated to advance the best interests of society, and delighted in aiding deserving youths, and was indefatigable in promoting plans of public usefulness.

[General Dirom's health began to break in 1830, and on the 6th of October he peacefully breathed his last at the age of 73.]

#### DUFFS OF EDEN.

At the corner of the old Church wall, we find a tablet—Sacred to the memory of Margaret Duff, Daughter of the late James Duff of Corsindy, and Widow of John Stewart, Esq., in Banff, who died 5th March 1803, aged 91. Also—Sacred to the Memory of Mrs Grant Duff of Eden, who died 3d May 1848, aged 71; also—Her Daughter, Margaret Grant, Daughter of John Grant, Esq., of Kincardine O'Neil; and of her Sister, Miss Jane Grant, who died 15th September 1857, aged 79.

[Their brother, the late Laird of Eden, is interred in the family mausoleum in the old church at King-Edward, and whose memory, as a distinguished officer in the East India Company's service, and as a highly respected country gentleman, is worthy of note. Mr Grant Duff of Eden was the eldest son of Mr Grant of Kincardine O'Neil, and was born in Banff, 18th July 1789. He was educated at Banff Academy and Marischal College. He rose rapidly in his profession. He was appointed Persian Interpreter, as well as Adjutant of his regiment; and before he quitted the regular service, his position and influence were far greater than his rank in the army would naturally have indicated. He attracted the attention of the late Mountstuart Elphinstone, Chief Resident at Poonah, who saw in the young soldier a desirable subject for his work, and appointed him his assistant, in conjunction with Captain, afterwards Sir Henry, Pottinger; and the friendship which then began remained unbroken till the death of his patron. Captain Grant had not been long attached to Mr Elphinstone when the Peishwah, hating the English domination, attacked the Residency—took, plundered, and burnt it to the ground. The decisive fight at Khirkee, however, punished the insolency and treachery of the Mahratta, in which Captain Grant had his cap pierced by a bullet; and a long train of operations followed, in which he was constantly employed, partly in a military and civil capacity. It now remained to settle the country, and to this object Mountstuart Elphinstone addressed himself. The unwearied labours and great abilities of his young assistant were rewarded by the "Blue Ribbon of Western India"—the Residency of Sattara. His mission now was to bring order out of chaos, civilisation out of barbarism, peace and prosperity out of war and desolation. How he grappled with the great

task, and how he succeeded in these benevolent objects, it would be long to trace. We shall only quote a single extract from the writings of one who knew the whole truth, viz. :—" Our remarks on the system of revenue and police administration adopted by Captain Grant Duff have detained us so long that we have little time to describe the Courts of civil and criminal justice which he organised, or the comprehensive regulations which he drew up to guide judicial officers in the administration of justice ; neither have we space to enumerate the internal improvements—the roads and bridges, the aqueducts and other public works, which he either executed or planned, and left to be completed by the Rajah, under the advice of his active and public-spirited successor. Still less can we detail his judicious measures to rescue the finest of the ancient buildings at Bejupur ; or his antiquarian and historical researches, of which he has left an ample and enduring monument in his admirable 'History of the Mahrattas.' But the immediate object of the present article requires that we should not pass over the constant attention he paid to the training of his royal pupil. It was his constant practice, while he held the reins of government, to associate the Rajah and his brothers with him in the transaction of all public business, sparing no pains and omitting no personal sacrifice by which he might insure the future good government of the country while he himself should be far from the scene of his labours. Such, in brief outline, was the admirable system of government planned and matured by the genius of Grant Duff. Having intrusted his royal pupil with the direct management of the country in 1822, he returned to his native land. A quarter of a century has since passed away, but the name of Grant Sahib is still familiar as a household word in every hut and hamlet of the country." The long and enthusiastic labours of Capt. Grant Duff broke down a constitution of no ordinary strength, and, after five years, his physicians insisted on his return to Europe. He turned, then, with a heavy heart from a country where he had made many friends, and when he was in the act of laying the foundation of a fame which, in the opinion of many, would not have been inferior to that of the most successful of our Indian statesmen.

[Mr Grant's first object after returning to his native country was to assume the name of Duff, in consequence of succeeding to the estate of Eden by descent from the Duffs of Corsindae, a branch of the Fife family, and then to set about completing his History of the Mahratta, a work of three volumes, and highly prized by Indian residents. He travelled also in France and Italy ; and thought at one time of availing himself of an overture which was made to him to enter Parliament in the year 1825. He married the only child of Sir Whitlaw Ainslie, the author of the *Materia Medica Indica*, and soon after settled at Eden, and devoted

himself to improving, or rather re-creating his property. Nothing that was new, either in methods or in implements, escaped his notice; and, as soon as he saw clearly that any proposed innovation was really beneficial, he spared neither expense nor trouble in carrying it out; and he had the satisfaction of introducing into this district the highest breed of Yorkshire cattle, which, mingled with other celebrated crosses, has raised this country to a high character for superior beef in the London market. While immersed in these useful labours, he steadfastly resisted the offer of a seat in the direction of the East India Company. In 1850, Mrs Grant Duff succeeded to an estate in Fifeshire, whereupon her husband assumed the name of Cunninghame; and by the death of an uncle, Mr Douglas Ainslie, added largely to the property of the family. He still continued to take a deep interest in agriculture; and, having purchased the estates of Auchleuchries, near Ellon, and of Blervie, in Morayshire, he spent large sums in the improvement of these properties. Mr Grant Duff died in 1857, and was succeeded in his property of Eden by his eldest son, M. E. Grant Duff, Esq., M.P. for the Elgin Burghs.]

#### PROVOST INNES.

Here is interred the body of James Innes, sometime Provost of Banff, who departed this life the 29th day of March 1757, in the 58th year of his age. With a brass plate inlaid in the stone.

In memory of Mrs Anne Innes, daughter of Provost Innes, and relict of the Rev. Andrew Skene, sometime minister of Banff, who died on the 2d day of September 1826, in the 93d year of her age; her husband having gone to Bath for the benefit of his health, died there on 2d day of Dec. 1791, and his remains were deposited in the burying-ground of that city.

#### ADMIRAL GORDON'S MONUMENT.

On the north-east side of the Churchyard is a handsome pyramidal monument, with an elegant inscription in white marble, written by Doctor Beattie, author of the "Minstrel," and essay on "Truth," and beautifully expressed to the memory of the late Admiral Gordon, who commanded the fleet at the Nore in the middle of the last century, and was originally from Banff. He was of the Gordons of Newton and Tillynaught, and widely connected at one time in this quarter. He built for his residence the house presently occupied by Mr Coutts, banker, and to the last entertained a high regard for Banff and Banff people. On his retirement from the service, he induced his private secretary, an officer on board the Admiral's ship, to accompany him to Banff, and assisted him to commence business, and with many of the county gentlemen brought the first banking establishment to the town,

under the management of their protégé, the late Mr James Imlach, who continued representative of the bank for upwards of half a century.

The inscription on the monument is as follows:—Sacred to the memory of William Gordon, Esquire, Rear Admiral of the White Squadron, who, after bravely serving his country for more than forty years, died at Banff, 12th April 1769, aged 64. His behaviour in public life was one continued and uniform exertion of humanity, patriotism, and valour. Gentleness and elegance of manners, a friendly, benevolent, and tender heart, and a strict regard to every religious and social duty, are some of those engaging qualities that distinguished him in private life, and have left upon the minds of his surviving friends a regret which no length of time will be able to remove. His only son, William Gordon, gave early proofs of ardour to imitate, and of ability to equal, the virtues of his father. But, alas! to the inexpressible affliction of his mother and only sister, and to the unfeigned sorrow of all who knew him, he was carried off by a consumption, June 22d, 1772, in the 19th year of his age. Mrs Elizabeth Forbes erects this marble as a memorial of her gratitude and love to a most affectionate husband and most amiable child.

The grave-stones at the foot of the monument are—Here lies the body of William Gordon, Esq., son of Rear-Admiral Gordon, and Mrs Elizabeth Forbes, his wife; he died in 1772, aged 19 years. Also, here lies the body of John Gordon, who died April 1759, aged 3 years; and also his sister, Elizabeth Gordon, the children of Capt. Willm. Gordon, R.N., and Elizabeth Forbes, his wife.

[The Admiral's only surviving daughter became the wife of Mr Forbes of Seaton, near Aberdeen, and their daughter was married to the late Lord James Hay.]

#### DUFFS OF MAYEN.

To the Memory of William Duff of Whitehill, Provost of Banff, and Bathia Garden, his spouse; and of their children, John, William, and Anne—25th Novemr. 1732.

The other tablet runs thus—Sacred to the Memory of Jane Abernethie, the last surviving daughter of James Abernethie, late of Mayen, who died 21 April 1805, aged 54, and is here interred near to her mother, Jane Duff, daughter of the first Alexander Duff of Hatton, who died Decemr. 1780. As a testimony of sincere affection to his amiable wife, and a tribute of just respect for her worthy mother, this stone is placed by Alexander Duff of Mayen—1805. Also, William, son of the above-named Alexander and Jane Duff, aged 68, was interred in this place, 1857.

[The above last representative of the Duffs of Mayen was educated

at Banff Academy, afterwards went to College, and on completing his studies was admitted as a junior into the house of John Morrison & Co., at Riga, and Archangel. On leaving, he commenced business in London on his own account, and occasionally came north to look after his estate, and, at other times, on political purpose called to support his chief, the Earl of Fife, during an election. He also held a Captaincy in the Inverness and Banff Militia. The estate of Mayen had passed from him previous to his death, which happened in Banff in 1857. He bequeathed about £700 for a dispensary, or, in certain contingencies, for a bursary at the Academy, to be named "The Duff Bursary."]

#### MONUMENT TO ISABELLA OGILVIE.

1698.—Memento mori.—Tyme flyeth, Death pursueth, Mind mortality, Conquer eternity. Sub hoc cippo seconduntur eximiae generosae mulieris Isabellae Ogilvie, Gulielmi Scotti, aurificis hujus urbis Burgen: quondam conjugis quæ fatis cessit 15 Augusti, Anno Dom. 1697, ætatis suæ 55.

Which may be translated—Under this Monument are buried the remains of the noble woman Isabella Ogilvie, wife of William Scott, sometime goldsmith of this town: She died 15 August 1697, aged 55.

[This monument to Isabella Ogilvie is one of the most artistic in the churchyard, covered with elaborate ornamentation of sculpture and carved work, and supported by two tastefully designed pillars in freestone, and surmounted with urn-like vases. It must have been esteemed a piece of skilful masonic combination, and the rich goldsmith satisfied that he had done lasting honour to the manes of his noble and departed spouse. The late Miss Strachan of Cortes claimed kindred with the "noble" lady as one of the Clan Ogilvie, her mother being related to the house of Findlater.

[The monument has been lately fully repaired, and backed up by a coating of freestone, on which is inscribed the epitaph to the family of Sharpe, as copied from the ancient one, now difficult to correctly decipher.]

To the Memory of the Rev. Abercromby Gordon, twenty-eight years minister of Banff, who died at the age of sixty-three, on the 12 March 1821; also of his wife, Janet Dunbar, who died on the 22 May 1824, aged sixty years. They are both interred in this place.

To the Memory, also, of William (eldest son of the Rev. Abercromby Gordon and Mrs Janet Dunbar), born at Banff 5 August 1800, went to London in 1819, and died there 23 April 1831, in consequence of a fall from his horse. Also of Margaret Gordon, their second daughter, who died at Newington on the 9th of April 1849; also of

Sarabella, their eldest daughter, who died at Bath on the 19 July 1857, in her 58 year.

[Of this family, two sons remain—Henry, now and for many years Governor and Chief Manager of the Oriental Bank in London, and married to the daughter of the late Provost Alexander of Banff; and the Rev. Abercromby Gordon, married to the daughter of the late Major Dunbar of Durn, Portsoy; and one only daughter, Janet, residing in Edinburgh.]

Sacred to the Memory of Mrs Mary Umphray, spouse of George Alexander, merchant in Banff, who died the 3rd day of June 1830, in the 43rd year of her age. Sacred also to the Memory of the above-mentioned George Alexander, who died Provost of Banff on 25 Novemr. 1840, in the 76 year of his age, universally respected as a man and a citizen. Requiescant in pace.

[Two sons of the above survive—the Rev. John Alexander, Episcopal Church, Edinburgh; and the Honble. George Alexander, Member of the Canadian Parliament, British America; and Mrs H. Gordon, London.]

In memory of John Cruickshank, A.M., who for upwards of forty years discharged the duties of Rector of the Academy of Banff with fidelity and success, and died on 3d July 1830, in the 71st year of his age. Here, also, are interred the remains of his daughter, Susan, who died on the 1st of November 1833, aged 33 years; and of his spouse, Mrs Margaret Morrison, who died at Banff on the 8th day of February 1845, aged 82 years.

[Rector Cruickshank had three sons. John, surgeon in the East India Company's service, and married the daughter of Colonel Greentree, of St Helena; James, the late respected minister of Fyvie; and George, who was Town Chamberlain of Banff, and agent for the North of Scotland Bank, Banff.

[The rise of our Banff Academy is rather worthy of notice, from the distinguished and learned men who, we may say, laid the foundation of its celebrity. The late Mr Thomas Ruddiman, the grammarian, and the learned Dr Chapman were both instrumental in raising its efficiency. Both of these worthies were born almost within the royalty of the burgh, and were kinsmen. Ruddiman instilled into Chapman's ready mind his own ardent taste for grammatical excellence, as exemplified in his grammar and rudiments of the Latin lingua; so that Dr Chapman, on starting his great academy at Inchdrewer Castle, when the late Earl of Fife, and his brother, Sir Alexander Duff, and many other scions of our aristocracy, received the rudiments of their education, had the full benefit of his friend Ruddiman's advice in preparing the system of edu-

cation which he meant to pursue. Chapman, however, was not satisfied with Ruddiman's own rudiments, but he would have an improved one of his own. Hence Dr Chapman's rudiments, which has been the favourite one at our Academy. Doctor Chapman, on retiring from the Banff Academy, left it in most excellent hands to his talented assistant, the late Rector Cruickshank, who brought it into such a state of high educational reputation, that when I was his pupil, seventy years ago, students flocked to him from all quarters of the world. Some half century back, it was a most exhilarating sight for those who were fortunate enough to attend the yearly banquet given to the Rector by his old pupils, usually designated the "Banff October Meeting," when young and old made a point, if possible, of being present to do honour to their respected teacher. Alas! how few of them now remain to tell the tale! Of my own class, which usually numbered about twenty-five, I alone am among the living in this quarter, and I can just point to another in the great capital of the world, who for a time sat at the same desk, now Sir James Clark.

[Sir James, although long absent from the place of his nativity, has always evinced a lively interest in its welfare by acts of beneficence, and to his friendship not a few of his countrymen have been mainly indebted for their prosperity in life. Ruddiman was born in Boyndie. Doctor Chapman was born at Wardend, two miles from Banff, and, after the advantage of an excellent course of education, became student of philosophy, and taught the Parish School of Alvah. He afterwards acquired distinguished reputation as a scholar and teacher at the Academy of Dumfries, from which he moved to the Academy at Inchdrewer Castle, and then to Banff, finally retiring to Edinburgh. His treatise on Education, and his other publications on learned subjects, were justly esteemed for their practical utility.]

[There is a marble monument to the Rector in the Parish Church, with the following inscription:—MDCCCXXXIV., Johanni Cruickshank, A.M., Annos amplius Quadraginta Rector Academiae, Banffiensis, erudito ac fideli, discipuli qui operam sub eo Literis Dederunt Præto animo inducti Hocce Monumentum Ponendum Curarent.]

Sacred to the Memory of James Duff, late of the Island of Madeira, and wine-merchant in London, who died in Banff 1st April 1812, aged 71.

[In the same grave were interred the remains of his daughter Maria, who met her death by a fall, slipping her foot on the top of one of the crags at the seaside, and, toppling over, was discovered lying dead in the morning, with her disconsolate sister, Jane, watching over her remains.]



## DUFF OF CARNOUSIE.

Sacred also to the Memory of Patrick Duff, Esqr. of Carnousie, who died at Banff 14 Septem. 1825, aged 28 years, erected by Mrs Penelope Duff, his spouse.

[The above was eldest son and heir of the distinguished General Patrick Duff of Carnousie, of the Indian Army, who had a full share of the many hard-fought battles in the end of the last century for the establishment of British supremacy in the East. General Patrick Duff of Carnousie was a scion of the family of the Earls of Fife, inasmuch as he was a grandson of Patrick Duff of Craigston. Mr P. Duff of Craigston was a remarkable personage. He was twice married, first to Miss Innes, secondly to Mary, daughter of James Urquhart of Knockleith, and by his two wives had thirty-six children. At an interview with His Majesty George II., he was congratulated on the addition he had made to His Majesty's subjects in Scotland. It is said that he hardly recognised some of his children, and on one occasion asked, in reference to his son Robert, afterwards Admiral Duff of Fetteresso, who that white-haired laddie was running about Craigston gardens? to which the young gentleman replied, "Oh, ye auld feel, dinna ye ken your ain son Robbie!" One of his sons, Alexander, was founder of the Hatton family. Another, Adam Duff, was Provost of Aberdeen. Another was Patrick Duff of Culter. Another was William, Laird of Whitehills, whose son was the distinguished Indian officer, and well known in India and in this country as Tiger Duff, from his encounter with a ferocious tiger, which at the time was the terror of the camp and followers. The subject of our story, then Captain Duff, out on duty with a single soldier, espied the tiger crouched under a thicket. Taking the musket, he told him to go quickly for assistance, himself remaining opposite the animal, trusting to the power that the human eye is said to exert over the brute creation. After his companion had been gone a considerable time, the tiger prepared for his fatal spring. The Captain fired, lodging the bullet in a vital part of the body, and received the attack on the point of the short sword. On the arrival of assistance, they were found locked in each others arms in a deadly embrace, the tiger transfixed in the throat with the sword, and the Captain himself fainting from loss of blood. He carried the mark of the monster's claw upon his face until his death. And, curiously enough, in the cheek of his first-born son, the above buried Patrick, and last laird, there was imprinted the mark of the tiger's paw, similar to that on his father's, but not so deeply indented. The General, when at home, was very much a Banff personage, had a town house, which his sisters occupied. He married the sister of the late General Hay of Montblair, who fell, with his eldest son, George,

at the Battle of Orthes. General Duff had three brothers—James, buried in our churchyard; Robert, who died in London; and Colonel John, who died in London, and left Bushy Park to the late Mrs Garden Campbell of Troup, his niece, afterwards Mrs Ramsay. The General left three sons—Patrick, the laird to whom the tombstone is erected; Captain George and Captain Adam.

[Whilst thus recounting the memories of the honoured dead, it may not be out of place for the writer of these records to take a glance at the career of a brave soldier, and a Banff man in every sense of the word, who had the honour of being introduced to a soldier's life under the auspices of this distinguished commander, General Patrick Duff, and who died in the service of his country. General Patrick Duff used invariably to come to my father's house when he visited Banff; and on these occasions, we boys used to turn out for inspection. On these occasions, the appearance and character of my brother William did not pass unobserved by the keen eye of the old soldier, and he persuaded my father to allow him to take his son under his charge to India, adding that "he would give him soldiering to his heart's content." So, at the age of sixteen, my brother William started for India with the General, and arrived safely at Bombay, where he soon joined his regiment, the 2nd Grenadiers; and after the usual drill and breaking-in of a camp life, the Corps was ordered to join Lord Lake's army before Seringapatam. The young Banffite was now fairly in harness, and was treated to some real fighting during the three days' siege of that strongly-fortified city. Ensign Imlach had the luck to be ordered with his regiment to storm one of the great gateways, and took part in the fray when Tippoo turned out to his last struggle in this gateway, where he was cut down, and our soldiers were ready enough to make free with his personal ornaments, Ensign I. being allotted one of the rings which the dying chief wore on his fingers.

[I have heard his brother officers say, that nothing delighted Imlach so much as being sent on any hazardous exploit, where there was likely to be hot work; and in those days, in the upper countries of India, there was no lack of opportunity of acquiring notoriety in that way; and, not unfrequently lots of prize money to boot. The latter, however, seldom remained long enough to form even a nest egg, as it was "lightly come, lightly go" with the young soldier. Among the most dangerous of his feats, on getting the command of his regiment, was his volunteering, at the siege of Bhurtpore, one of the strongest fortresses in India, to lead "the forlorn hope" with his Grenadier Company. After scaling the outer rampart, and successfully planting the British standard with his own hand, he and his brave fellows, overpowered by superior numbers, were hurled over into the ditch below. Many were killed and wounded,

and among the latter was my brother, who was so severely mauled that he had to be transported on a litter for six weeks with the army, ere he was in a condition to resume his command.

[It may be added that Major Imlach was, I believe, the first officer who led the Sepoys beyond seas to fight, having been appointed to take command of the Bombay Sepoys, ordered to join the troops from England under General Lord Abercromby, and the fleet with Admiral Rowley, in the attack of the Isles of France and Bourbon, in possession of the French. These places were strongly fortified, and well garrisoned by French troops, so that the work before them was likely to be serious. Apart from his general course of service, I may specially notice an episode which occurred in the first attack made by the combined forces on the Isle de Bourbon. A detachment of British troops had been ordered to attack the town batteries and shipping of St Paul's (in 1809), and having succeeded in getting possession of the Battery La Centeur, a column of some of our crack regiments was dispatched to reduce the Fort of La Neuf, but were repulsed, and retired for a time. Lord Abercromby rode up to the officer commanding the Sepoys, and said to him—"Now is your time I——, you say your fellows will go to h—ll with you; let us see if you can silence these guns, and clear the way for us." The order was instantly carried into effect; but as bad luck would have it, on their march thither, he fell in with, and was opposed by, the entire French force, who had taken up a very strong position behind a stone wall, with eight brass field pieces, six-pounders on their flanks. This post (so said the British papers at the time), was instantly charged in the most gallant manner by that officer and his men. The enemy gave desperate fight, and maintained their position for a time. The conflict on both sides getting warm, but not doubtful, for the Sepoys, who, after hard fighting and great slaughter, took the eight brass field pieces, and drove back the enemy to their stronghold, which afterwards fell into possession of the British. The following year saw the reduction of the Island of Bourbon.

[In consequence of his distinguished conduct on that occasion, Major Imlach was selected by the chief officers in command for the appointment of Governor and Commandant of the Island of Roderiguez, and sent thither to make arrangements for the arrival of additional troops for the attack on the Isle of France. Among the arrivals was the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, the 33d, which had been taking part in the recent India war, and while on the beach receiving the officers, his own cousin, Captain Reid, of that Corps, marched up to him. On the completion of the preparations for the attack on the Isle of France, both fleet and army were brought into action, and a very serious conflict ensued, both arms of the service displaying their wonted courage and success in

carrying the various fortifications, and rendering a capitulation imperative on the part of the French authorities. Our commissioners selected Major Imlach as Prize Agent; and confirmed a continuation of his Governorship of the Island of Roderiguez, with five thousand a-year. It was gratifying to his friends at home to observe the particulars of these important battles, and the acquisition of these fertile and valuable additions to our colonies, all detailed in the newspapers of the day, and the name of a Banff-born man among the number distinguished for bravery and gallant conduct, and still more satisfactory was it afterwards to see that his services had been duly appreciated on being brought under the notice of the Prince Regent, and rewarded by the honourable dignity of Knight Companion of the Bath.

[I shall not follow out the farther particulars of this soldier's life in India, as it might occupy more space than we can spare, but shall only say that during the twenty-six years he passed in that country, he was scarcely a day absent from duty, unless when incapacitated by wounds. Some years before his death, he had been appointed by the Government to the command of a division of the Bombay Army as Brigadier and Commandant of the Province of Malwan, a widely extended territory, and on occasions of a thorough survey, a deal of fatigue and exposure to climate had to be gone through. This could only be accomplished on horseback, and the Colonel, being a strong healthy man, did not adopt the measures for self-preservation which a more delicate person would have looked to, so had allowed his digestive powers to get into disorder, and the consequence was an inflammatory attack, which, in a warm climate, soon does its fatal work, and the brave soldier had to succumb to the inexorable stroke of our last enemy, leaving a mourning widow and three fatherless children to lament his loss, after an active service of twenty-six years of camp life, and in the prime of life, at the early age of forty-two.]

#### SHERIFF PRINGLE.

The next tablet which strikes the eye is a tasteful one of Aberdeen granite, to the memory of a man much and justly esteemed in this town. "Here lie the remains of John Pringle, W.S., Sheriff-Substitute of Banffshire, who died 3d Dec. 1853, aged 68 years. And of his wife, Margaret Wallace, who died 16th April 1844, aged 46 years. Also, of his brother, Captain George Pringle, R.N., who died 21st Sept. 1834, aged 55 years."

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In memory of George Bannerman, Solicitor in Banff, who died 2d April 1861, aged 46 years. Erected by a few friends, admirers of his unsullied probity and sterling worth.

[Mr Bannerman was indeed a lawyer to be trusted. For years he was a most valuable and energetic member of the Town Council, and invariably stood the poor man's friend.]

Erected by John M'Dowall Skene, Captain, R.N., Inspecting Commander of Coast-Guard, Banff, to the memory of his beloved and much lamented wife, Georgiana Louisa Lumsden, daughter of Henry Lumsden, Esq. of Anchindoir, who died in Banff on the 10th October 1848, in the 22d year of her age, and her mortal remains are interred here.

To the memory of Catherine Gordon, daughter of John Gordon of Avochie, who died at Banff 26 Decem. 1788. By her aunt, Mrs Innes of Muirfold.

Cippum hunc sepulchratem in memoriam amantissimi sui mariti Patricii Lowson in hac urbe. Ut subtus intemerati jaceant cineres Mariæ, Jacobi, Gulielmi, et Alexander Keith, mercator in Banffia, et Mariæ Thomson, ejus uxor, qui diem obiit supremum Feb. 13, 1722, erigendum curavit moestissima conjux. Which may be translated:—In memory of her affectionate husband, Patrick Lowson, merchant in this town, who breathed his last on the 13th February 1722. His surviving spouse, Sarah Wood, has caused this gravestone to be erected. Since, underneath lie undefiled the ashes of Mary, James, William, and Alexander Keith. Their parents, Alexander Keith, merchant in Banff, and Mary Thomson, his wife, have caused this monument to be erected.

Sacred to the memory of James Gordon, who died at Tillynaught, March 19, 1793, in his forty-third year. Beneath are also interred the remains of his son, George, who died 10th September 1793; also, Jane Gordon, who died aged twenty.

[Mr Gordon had three sons educated at the Banff Academy. All went to India. James distinguished himself as a surgeon in the Company's service, and in the staff of the army; William rose to the rank of Major; and Alexander to be Colonel of a regiment.]

Departed this life on 1st January 1798, aged 78 years, Isabel Donaldson, widow of Captain Charles Forbes, 60th Regiment of Foot, who fell in battle at Ticonderaga, North America. Sacred also to the memory of James Reid of this parish, who died 17th November 1836, aged 78 years, and Anne Duff Forbes, wife of the above-named James Reid, and daughter of Captain C. Forbes, who departed this life 6th May 1888, aged 82 years.

Sacred to the memory of William Leslie, Esq. of Dunlugas, who died 27th March 1811 ; also, his sister Margaret, who died in 1806.

[Mr Leslie was a successful Norwegian proprietor and merchant, who, having realised a considerable fortune, and having no children of his own, left his fine estate of Dunlugas to his nephew, the late Hans George Leslie, Esq. of Dunlugas, who was educated at Banff Academy. In after life, Mr Leslie was characterised as a most liberal-minded country gentleman. At his death, he was interred in the family mausoleum in the churchyard of Alvah, and his son, Captain Hans G. Leslie, H.E.I.C., succeeded to his estate.]

In memory of his beloved parents, Donald Mackintosh, who died 17th September 1807, aged 76 years, and of his spouse, Elspet Forbes, who died 21st November 1829, aged 77 years. Erected by their affectionate son, James Mackintosh, late of Calcutta.

[Mr Mackintosh is one of those remarkable men who, from mediocre beginning, rise to fortune by honesty, perseverance, and good conduct. He may almost be termed a Banff man, having been born at no great distance from the burgh, to which he hastened about the time of his father's death for education. Entered as a carpenter in one of our building yards, he was taken out to Calcutta on board an Indiaman, in which Dr R. Wilson (of Banff, and travelled notoriety) was both surgeon and purser. The Doctor, on his arrival at Calcutta, got young Mackintosh engaged in the great firm of Burns & Co., builders, at first in a low grade certainly. But the wary, sober, and hard-working Scot soon showed the capacity that was in him, and he was promoted step by step, till he rose to the head of one of the departments in the business, and on the occasion of the heads of the house being obliged to leave on account of bad health, he had the whole business thrown upon him, and successfully mastered it all. Years went on, and success followed in his wake, and about the year 1822, our Banff man appeared at the old place with a handsome fortune, wife, and family progressing, took one of our best mansions, and entertained like a prince. For many years we had the benefit of his society, and he would gladly have remained a denizen of Banff, could he have obtained a property in town or country to please him. This not being the case, he went to the south of Scotland, and finding the estate of Lamancha, in Peeblesshire, in the market, the old family property of the Lords Cochrane, he became the purchaser, and he and his family took up their abode in the old mansion ; and, while still in middle life, was able to bring his ingenuity to bear on the dormant resources of Lamancha, which at this time was in a state of dilapidation. He commenced his operations by sinking coal pits, building lime kilns, erecting brick and tile works, which, judiciously carried

out, have been all successful, and of much service to the neighbourhood. He also effected numerous improvements on the mansion and gardens, adapting them to modern taste. On the lands, Mr Mackintosh has done much in the way of draining and otherwise improving. On some portions of the heathy and boggy land, he has expended upwards of £30 per acre in mere improvement, and so successfully, that already there is a return of five per cent. per annum on the outlay. Improvements of a different kind have been made on the range of high ground, where good crops of oats and barley are now grown at an elevation of about 1200 feet above the level of the sea. The other day, I was informed that £650 per annum had been offered for a field understood to contain a valuable coal formation, and other minerals.]

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To Joseph Bethune of Dornoch, a Major in the 78th Regiment, in which he served during 23 years, sharing its laurels at Ahmednagar, Assaye, and Java. Born 21st December 1781; died 2d April 1837.

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In memory of James Duff, Esq., fourth Son of the first Alexander Duff of Hatton, who died 19th November 1804, aged 75; as a tribute of dutiful regard, this stone is placed over his remains by his affectionate Widow, Daughter of James Dunbar of Kincorth, 1805. James, Isabella, and John Duff, their children, are buried here; and Alexander, Sophia, and Mary, in the grave with their Aunt, Mrs Helen Duff. Also, Mrs Margaret Ogilvie Dunbar, Widow. Also, here lyes the body of Helen Duff, Daughter of the first Alexander Duff of Hatton.

[Mr James Duff's town residence was that large quadrangular building on the street leading to the harbour, with the arched gateway. He was Sheriff-Clerk of Banffshire, and was in high position from his family connection. His eldest son was Captain George Duff, who commanded the "Mars" at Trafalgar. His lady was the amiable and beautiful Sophia Dirom, daughter of Provost Dirom of Banff, distinguished for her virtues and feminine graces; and their son was the late Admiral Norwich Duff, who was on the deck of his father's ship, bravely fighting, when the fatal bullet put an end to his father's career, and a daughter of whom is married to Mr Tayler of Glenbarry.

[The only surviving daughter of the above James Duff is Mrs Anne Duff, widow of the late Mr Walter Biggar, who lately died in Edinburgh.]

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*Sacrum Memoriae Theodorus Forbes, medicinae doctoris summae spei juvenis qui ob benevolam ingenus humanum mentem doctrinam, et ingens sui desiderium moriens, et in artesua solertium eximiam reliquit, hunc lapidem erigendum curavit, mater jure moestissima Susanna Morison, Joannis Forbes de Pitfichie, vidua piis et probis carus faverisque*

decessit—Novem. 18, A.D. 1736, ætatis 25. Which may be translated: Sacred to the Memory of Theodore Forbes, doctor of medicine, a young man of the highest hope, who, on account of his benevolent disposition to the human race, his learning, and his great skill in his profession, left by his death a great blank. His mother, the relict of John Forbes of Pitfichie, sorrowing not without reason, has caused this stone to be erected. Loving and beloved by the pious and upright. He departed (this life) 18 of Novemr. A.D. 1736, in the 25 year of his age.

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Here ly the ashes of James, Helen, and Janet Innes, children of James Innes, and Mary Cruickshank, his spouse, sometime in Sandy-hills, who died in 1735.

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Erected, by his widow and surviving children, to the memory of George Cruickshank, solicitor in Banff, who died 19th May 1863, aged 66 years, as a tribute of love and respect to an affectionate husband, and an honoured and beloved parent. Here also rests the remains of Margaret Eliza, daughter of Geo. Cruickshank and Margaret Sim (daughter of James Sim, Esq. of Antigua, and Margt. M'Killigin, daughter of Provost M'Killigin of Banff), who died 1st March 1852, aged 15 years. Their son, George James, died at Southsea 4 Janry. 1856, aged 14 years, and was buried there.

[Mr Cruickshank, late agent for the North of Scotland Bank here, long held the responsible office of Town Chamberlain, which he conducted with the highest credit to himself and the entire satisfaction of his constituents. His surviving son, John, after distinguishing himself as a surgeon in the Indian Army, has been promoted to the Staff. His eldest daughter is married to Mr G. Scott of Somerset House, London.]

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Here rest the remains of James Bartlet, Esqr. of Afforsk, late Provost of Banff, who died in 1769, aged 86; also their son, James Bartlet, Esq. of Afforsk, Lieut.-Colonel Comg. Banffshire Local Militia, died April 1817, in his 79 year; also, Mary Leslie, his spouse.

Colonel Bartlet had two brothers—Dr Peter Bartlet, an eminent London physician, and Captain Robert Bartlet of the Royal Marines, father of the late Mrs Bruce, spouse of the Rev. Alexander Bruce, late of St Andrew's Church, Banff. Mr Bruce's family, on the female side, represent the ancient family of Bartlet of Afforsk, and, in the male line, it is represented by the Rev. James Bartlet of St John's Church, Mansfield, Nottingham, and (in this part of the country) by Alexander Bartlet, Esq., of the farm of Easter Bo, parish of Gamrie.



## BAILIE GILBERT'S MONUMENT.

Here is interred the body of Anne Mickie, spouse of William Gilbert, merchant in Banff, who departed this life Augt. 22, 1767, in the 35 year of her age; also, is interred here the body of Elizabeth Gilbert, their daughter, who died on 29 Octr. 1764, in the 5th month of her age. Here also rests the body of the above William Gilbert, merchant in Banff, who died the 8th Janry. 1798, aged 88. As a small mark of respect, this inscription is done by his daughter Helen.

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Here rest in hope through Christ Dorothea Mary Bruce, the wife of the Rev. Alexander Bruce, for 47 years incumbent of St Andrew's Church. She was born in the year 1800, and departed this life 22d June 1864. Also their children, Mary Lealie, who departed this life 26th Feb. 1827, aged 4 years; Dorothea Mary, who departed 25th July 1839, aged 12 years; Anne Patricia, who departed 3d Feb. 1843, aged 17 years; and Margaret, who departed 23d Jan. 1846, aged 8 years.

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This stone is erected by Bailie William Fyfe, Merchant in Banff, in memory of his spouse, Christian Cruickshank, daughter of Alexander Cruickshank, Esq. of Balnoon. She departed this life 17th day of March 1790, aged 75 years.

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Here are interred the mortal remains of Captain John M'Leod, of the Royal Navy, who died 15th Sept. 1817, in Banff, aged 60.

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## PROVOST SHAND'S MONUMENT.

Marmorium hocce monument in honorem amantissimi patriæ Jacobi Shand, Præpositi de Banff, qui obiit 5 Maiæ 1736, ætatis anno 58. Profuit Jacobus, ejus filius primogenitus omnes eodem cogimur. Sub hoc marmoris quoque Domina Jane Russell prima et Domina Margaret Calder, uxor secunda ante dicti Jacobi Shand, Craigellie, sepultæ sunt antedictus Jacobus Shand, Præpositus de Banff, obiit Decem. 1795, ætati 84. Gul. Shand de Craigellie filius ejus obiit 3 March A.D. 1810, suæ ætat 70. Domina Helen Ogilvie, hujus vidua Gul. Ogilvie, armigeri filia 26 Aprilis A.D. 1819, ætat 78, morte recubuit Helen Shand primagenita. Gul. Shand et Hel. Ogilvie obiit 1 mo. Novembris 1834, 66 ætatis suæ. In memory of William Shand, Esq. of Craigellie, who died 11th June 1848, aged 70 years. Eliza Bettie, his sister, who died 25th March 1817, aged 71 years. And of his sister, Jean Shand, who died in Banff 22d July 1851, in her 78th year.

Sacred to the memory of Gilbert Bannerman, Watchmaker in Banff, who died 18th April 1812, aged 78 years; and Anne Smart, his spouse, who died 14th August 1814, aged 73.

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To the memory of John Jeffryes, late collector of H.M. Customs in Banff, who died 17th March 1822, aged 60.

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To the memory of John Ramage, Accountant in the National Bank, Banff, who died 24th February 1832, aged 34, deeply regretted by his widow and relations.

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Erected by Samuel Leith, in memory of his father, Peter Leith, late Tinsmith in Banff, who died 8th March 1860, in the 85th year of his age.

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Erected by Stenhouse Bairnsfather, Teacher, Infant School, Banff, in memory of his beloved wife, Margaret Clyne, who died 18th April 1860, aged 52 years. His son, Stenhouse Goodall, died at Leith 9th July 1837, aged 14 months.

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Erected by James Smith, Collector of Town's Rents, to the memory of his mother, Margaret Innes, who died 29th July 1843.

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Sacred to the memory of James Nicol, Collector of Customs at Banff, who died 24th April 1849, aged 82. Also, of his Spouse, Margaret Stephenson, who died 23d December 1864, aged 82 years. Also, of his Sister-in-law, Mary Stephenson, Spouse of William Jameson, who died 16th February 1856, aged 80 years.

[William Nicol, Esq., late of Liverpool, and recently Member of Parliament for Dover, a most successful merchant and shipowner, is son of the above gentleman. Andrew Nicol, Esq., of Ceylon, and now resident at Elgin, is another son. To the latter, the Trustees of the Churchyard are obliged for a subscription of £39 8s., collected among Banff men—proprietors like himself, and coffee growers—in the island of Ceylon.]

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Sacred to the memory of Edward Mortimer, Solicitor in Banff, who died at Dingwall on the 19th of May 1864, aged 62. Erected by his Widow and Son.

[Mr Mortimer was for many years Factor on the Fife Estates, and Political Agent for the Earl of Fife's Trustees; and, in point of ability, had few equals in the North of Scotland. In private life, he was most unassuming, and was kindly and considerate in all his actions.]

Erected by Isabella Jameson, in memory of her deceased Husband, Francis Garden Sangster, Solicitor in Banff, who died 13th September 1850, aged 43 years. Also, of their Son, James Andrew Sangster, who died 27th October 1846, aged 1 month.

[The late Francis G. Sangster was partner in the firm of Sangster & Souther, Solicitors and Writers in this town. He was also, up to the period of his death, Agent for the old Aberdeen Bank.]

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Sacred to the memory of Mary Wilson, relict of the late John Whyte, Surgeon in Banff, Spouse of the Rev. Robt. Blackwood, Minister of Union Free Church, Aberdeen; died, at Banff, 22d June 1851. This inscription is placed by her surviving Husband.

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Erected to the memory of John Whyte, Surgeon in Banff, who died the 18th day of May 1831, aged 61 years. Here, also, rest the remains of Elspet Whyte, his Spouse, who died 24th August 1794, aged 80 years; Mary Findlater Whyte, their Daughter, who died 24th Aug. 1792; and John Whyte, their Son, who died 13th August 1797.

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In memory of Joseph Whyte, M.R.C.S.P., Surgeon, R.N., who practised in Banff for 30 years. Died 1856, aged 71; and Sarah Wilson, his Spouse. This inscription is placed by their youngest son, William Whyte, M.D., Edinburgh, and M.R.C.P., London, Physician in Banff.

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Here ly interred the body of Elizabeth Mitchell, daughter of James Mitchell and Elizabeth Murray, who died 10 Octr. 1777, aged 8 years. The above James Mitchell, dyer in Banff, died June 8, 1799, aged 61 years; also, their son William, who died 26 June 1805, aged 26 years. The said Elizabeth Murray died 10th Dec. 1814, aged 76 years; John Mitchell, dyer in Banff, died 8th January 1836, aged 69 years. The above is the John Mitchell who bequeathed funds for the establishment of Mitchell's School for females, a house in Reid Street for the School-room and Dwelling-house, and salary of £20 a-year to the teacher. The deed appoints the Sheriff-Substitute, Provost, and Minister of Banff to be Trustees.

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In memory of the Rev. Francis William Grant, Minister of the Parish of Banff for 22 years, and of the Free Church there for 15 years, who died 12th April 1858, aged 71; also, of James Grant Duff, his third son, who died at Bombay, 11th September 1864, aged 27.

## PROVOST M'KILLIGIN'S MONUMENT.

This stone is erected by George M'Killigin, Provost of Banff, in memory of his spouse, Barbara Strachan, daughter of the late Alexander Strachan, merchant there. She died the 31st December 1795, aged 68. Their daughter, Margaret, and their son, Robert, are also interred here.

[Provost M'Killigin died 29th January 1798, in his 70th year. He sustained the character of an upright and active Chief Magistrate.

[The eldest son of the above Provost was Major James M'Killigin, who served in India with much honour to himself, retired on half pay, and came to reside in the town of Banff, the place of his birth, with his wife and family. He joined the great house of M'Killigin and Robertson, who carried on business in Banff. Their large vessels, in the time of the long war, were much employed by Government in the transport service. The Major was also the person who set a-going the Mill of Banff Distillery. He was chosen Provost of Banff. As a member of society, he had scarcely an equal. An evening in the Major's company was no common treat.]

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Sacred to the memory of Mrs Anne Maitland Livingston or M'Killigin (spouse of George M'Killigin), who was born in London the 20th day of November 1765, and who died at Carnousie on the 15th day of February 1832; and of their children, Barbara, Christina, George, James, Alexander, Richard, Charlotte, Francis, Elizabeth, Charles; and Anne Maitland, spouse of William Bartlet, merchant, London, born 4th March 1799, and who died at London 24th December 1831.

[George M'Killigin, above alluded to, second son of the late Provost George M'Killigin, devoted himself to shipping and commercial affairs, and while young commanded one of the Company's large vessels trading to foreign countries, and subsequently settled down as a partner in the house. He was the last of the house of M'Killigin and Robertson; and in his old age retired to a cottage on the beautiful property of his son, William M'Killigin, Esq. of Relugas, on the banks of the Findhorn. It is six years since his remains were laid beside those of his beloved wife, Anne Maitland Livingston, at the ripe age of 96.]

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Sacred to the memory of Mary Cuming, spouse to Captain David Cuming, Royal Marines, daughter of Sir William Dunbar of Durn, who resigned her pure soul to heaven and everlasting bliss, July 4, 1782, aged 38, in the absence (in his country's service) of an affectionate and now afflicted husband, who greatly and sincerely laments the loss of so

much constancy and worth ; and of one whom his heart, from love and gratitude, was too long and too faithfully attached ever to be forgot.

Robert Cuning, late in Montcoffer, father to the above David Cuning, after a truly exemplary life of piety and virtue, died 30th May 1776, aged 81. Jean Cuning, spouse of the above Robert Cuning, died 5th August 1790, aged 80.

The above David Cuning died at Banff, 6th May 1809, aged 71.

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Sacred to the memory of William M'Killigin, who died at Relugas, Morayshire, 19th September 1852, aged 52.

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Erected by Jane M'Donald to the memory of her beloved daughter, Jane M'Killigan, who died 11th July 1862, aged 17 ; also to the memory of her affectionate husband, James M'Killigan, who died in London, 29th May 1859, aged 37 years.

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Here are deposited the remains of William Stewart, practitioner of surgery, who departed this life June 14, 1790, in the 49th year of his age ; and of his spouse, Sophia Stewart, who died 13th December 1797, aged 56. Their dutiful and affectionate son, John Stewart, has caused this stone to be erected.

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Erected by William Hossack, Merchant in Banff, in memory of Bathia Milne, his spouse, who died 17th July 1856, aged 60. Also, their daughter, Mary Anne, who died 23d Nov. 1836, aged 3 years.

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Sacred to the memory of Major Colin Macrae, 75th Regiment of Foot, and Isabella Macrae, of Ardintoul.

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To the memory of George Dawson, Solicitor, Banff, who died upon the 14th July 1846, aged 72. This stone is erected by his sorrowing brothers and sisters.

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Sacred to the memory of George Smith, Merchant in Banff, who died 9th April 1865, aged 70 years. Also, his wife, Agnes Milne, who died 22d Feb. 1854, aged 54.

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In memory of William Milne, shipmaster in Banff, who died there 16 June 1847, aged 84 years. His wife, Helen Duncan, who died there 21 Febr. 1841, aged 86. Their daughter, Mary, widow of William Grant, shipmaster, Banff, who died 20 July 1837, aged 45 ; and of their son, Garden Milne, M.D., surgeon, R. Navy, who died at Banff on the 5 July 1842, in his 52 year.

Here also are interred the remains of William Grant, solicitor in Banff, who died 12 Novemr 1854, aged 40; and of Garden Grant, merchant in Banff, who died 8th August 1856, aged 44—both sons of the said Mrs Mary Milne or Grant.

[The late Dr Garden Milne, after perfecting his medical studies in Edinburgh, entered the Royal Navy, and was very early promoted to surgeon. During the long war, he had ample opportunity of making use of his skill in the profession, and at its conclusion returned to his native town, where he gained an extensive practice.

[Captain William Milne, above mentioned, was the great-great grandson of Thomas Milne, who was ferryman at Spey in 1650, and who carried ashore King Charles II. when he landed at Spey; the particulars of which incident are fully narrated in Sir T. Dick Lauder's interesting history of the Morayshire Floods of 1829. The ground on which stood the house in which Thomas Milne (or 'King' Milne, as he was ever afterwards called), is still owned by the family, being now the property of Mr Wm. Hossack, Sandlaw, who was married to a daughter of Captain William Milne's, and whose son, Mr Garden M. Hossack, solicitor, Banff, is now the representative, through his mother, of the 'King Milnes' of Kingston.]

Erected by Alexander Duncan, blacksmith, Banff, to the memory of his wife, Janet Hay, who died 29 Decem. 1847, aged 59. The above Alexander Duncan died 30th November 1851, aged 69; also, their grand-children—Alexander, son of William Munro, Ironfounder, who died 27 Novem. 1849, aged 8 years; also, his son Robert, who died 10 Octr. 1857, aged 11 months.

#### THE FRAZERS' MONUMENT.

Here rest the remains of James Frazer, Blacksmith in Banff, born in Deskford 1755; died at Banff 1842. Also, Anne Ogilvie, Spouse of James Frazer, born at Letterfourie 1756; died at Banff 1847. Also, their Son, John Frazer, Blacksmith, born in Banff 1792; died at Banff 1839. Also, Isabella Frazer, Spouse of William Cowie, Merchant in Banff, and Daughter of James Frazer, born 1794; died 1836. Also, Margaret Cowie, Daughter of John Cowie, Farmer at Sandlaw, and Wife of James Fraser, Ironfounder in Banff, born at Sandlaw 1782; died at Banff 1845. Also, Margaret Fraser, Daughter of James Frazer, born 1789; died at Banff 1848. Also, James Frazer, Farmer at Sandlaw, and Ironfounder in Banff, who died July 16th, 1856, aged 69; and of William Cowie, late Merchant in Banff, died 28th December 1860, aged 65.

[The members of this family of Frazer were highly respectable in their grade in the town, and had much influence among the Trades' Corporations, particularly on the occasion of elections, when the voice of the Trades had its predominance through their Convener, which distinction the head of the house frequently occupied with great satisfaction to the community. Mr Frazer was also a zealous member of St Andrew's Lodge, and much respected among the brethren. His son, James, introduced the ironfoundry here, and carried on the business with much success, adding largely to the wealth of the family, which is now represented by Mr John Frazer, blacksmith, who succeeded to a portion of their large property.]

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Here lies the remains of the Children of Alexander Cameron, Cabinetmaker, Banff—George, aged 9 years; Alexander, aged 7 years, who both died 11th November 1846; Margaret, aged 18 months, who died 23d November 1846; and the infant Son, on the 2d June 1849. Also, George Craigie, their Grandfather, who died 29th December 1846, aged 65.

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Erected to the memory of George Cruden, Millwright in Banff, who died 19th March 1828, aged 29 years. Also, Jean Cruden, Daughter of the above, who died 5th June 1863, aged 37.

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Erected by Hay Maclagan, Shipmaster in Banff, in memory of his Parents, John Maclagan, who died at Edinburgh 23d September 1825, aged 38 years, and Christian Hay, his Spouse, who died at Banff 24th February 1843, aged 46. Also, his Grandmother, Jane Hay, who died 9th January 1853, aged 83.

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Erected by George Duncan, Watchmaker in Banff, in memory of Anne Duncan, his Spouse, who died 21st December 1827, aged 47.

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This tablet is erected to the memory of James Frazer, junior, iron founder in Banff, who died in Elgin, 26th June 1856, aged 32, and is interred here; also, in memory of Margaret Cowie, Relict of the above James Frazer, and Spouse of William Lumsden, who died in 1859.

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Erected to the memory of Elspet Moir, wife of James Reid, who died 26th April 1847, aged 76 years; also, the above James Reid, who died 18th Feb. 1854, aged 83.

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Erected by Alexander Grant, Mason in Banff, and Margaret Rhind, his Spouse, to the Memory of their Children, John, who died 4th June

1799, aged 5 years; Elizabeth, who died 10th Oct. 1816, aged 54; also, his Spouse, Margaret Rhind, who died 8th Nov. 1854, aged 86.

Erected in memory of George Shepherd, Coppersmith, Banff, who died 22d April 1807; and of his infant child, Sophia; also, of Elizabeth, who died 17th Feb. 1821. Margaret Jaffray, his Spouse, died 29th April 1831, aged 72 years.

Erected to the memory of Alexander Wright, who died 22d March 1813, aged 68; also of Barbara Marshall, his spouse, who died 17th July 1830, aged 84 years; also Thomas Wright, merchant in Banff, second son of the above, died 11th April 1851, aged 67 years. Barbara Wright died on 12th January 1855, aged 78 years. Jean Wright died 1st February 1865, aged 84 years.

[The above Thomas Wright was a highly respectable merchant in Banff, brought up a large family in the town, was well known as Bailie Wright, having frequently held that onerous position in the Town Council. He also for many years performed the duty of paymaster to the local militia during the time of the French war.]

Erected by Alexander Harper, merchant in Banff, and his spouse, in affectionate remembrance of their deceased family, two infant children, and William, who died 31st January 1833, aged 5 years; Alexander, who died 12th July 1843, aged 24 years; and the above-named Alexander Harper, sen., died 1st January 1848, aged 62 years; and Isabella Watson, his spouse, who died the 18th December 1851, aged 58 years.

This stone is erected to the memory of Grizzel Urquhart, wife of George Lawtie, late of the Customs in Banff, as a tribute of respect and gratitude to an honoured parent, from her mourning children. She died on the 11th March 1799, aged 74.

To the memory of Miss Murray Lawtie, obiit. ætatis 85, A.D. 1841. This monument is erected by her grateful nephew, Christopher Fagan.

In memory of Adam Elder, who died June 21st, 1829, aged 82; and of Ann, his wife, who died April 25th, 1821, aged 69; also of George Elder, son of the above, who died March 3d, 1853, aged 60; and of Margaret, his wife, who died February 1837, aged —; and of their son, George Elder, who died August 21st, 1849, aged 21.

[A rather interesting episode to denizens of Banff may be traced in the history of the only surviving son of the above Adam Elder, which I



shall give as an example for other young men to follow. The father, although a poor man, and labouring in his humble craft for his daily bread, had a pride in giving his sons a fair education, easily accessible at that time, as it still is, at our Banff Academy.

[Alexander, third son of Adam, thus prepared, entered the establishment of the Messrs Imlach, carrying on various branches of bookselling business in Banff. Remaining in their employment for some ten years, and gaining a character for steadiness and capacity, these gentlemen urged his moving to London, and handed him over to a friend who had bought up, and succeeded to the great publishing and bookselling house of Vernor, Hood, and Sharp. Here our Banff man acquired a thorough knowledge of London work and habits, and promotion was sought for in another house.

[About the same period that Elder commenced London life, a youth of the name of Smith was consigned to the tender mercies of the same party in town by the well-known bookseller in Elgin, Mr Isaac Forsyth. Smith followed pretty much the same course as his Banff compeer; and the two finally united in opening a publishing house of their own in Fenchurch Street.

[It is not for me to look more minutely into the difficulty or success which they met in working up the ladder, but all the world knows that Smith & Elder have for many years carried on one of the first publishing establishments in the metropolis.]

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Erected by James Henderson, Banff, in memory of his children—  
Eliza Strachan died 30th June 1845, aged 4 years; John Henry Milne died at Rio Janeiro 7th January 1858, aged 16 years; Eliza Strachan died 16th January 1859, aged 2 years and 9 months.

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Erected by James Johnston, merchant in Banff, to the memory of his son, George G. B. Johnston, who died on the 15th January 1849, aged 7 years 14 months. Also, the said James Johnston, who died on the 6th Dec. 1854, aged 73 years.

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The corpse of Adam Pantoun, Merchant in Banff, who died on the 20th day of September 1733, ly interred under this gravestone, which his surviving spouse, Sarah Wood, erected to his memory.

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This Stone was erected by order of the Right Hon. James Earl of Fife, in memory of Alexander Imlach, John Strachan, William Macguich, and William Cruickshank, four of his Lordship's gardeners, who lost their lives attempting to cross the River Deveron in a small Boat, at the King's Ford, when the River was greatly swelled, upon the 14th day

of June 1768 ; and of Alexander Andrew, who, in going home to the Farm of Corskie, in a dark night, missed his way, and lost his life in the Gellyburn, 2d December 1774.

Erected by James Rose, Solicitor in Banff, and Isabella Falder, his Spouse, in memory of their Children—James, who died 30th January 1833, aged 2 years ; William, who died on the following day, aged 5 years. Also, their second James, who died 3d May 1836, aged 2 years 8 months.

Erected by Mary Anne Duncan, in memory of her beloved Husband, George Morrison, Farmer at Foulzie, who died 12th February 1849, aged 34 years.

#### CORBET MEMORIAL.

Near the Grave of her Husband, Robert Corbet, and that of his Friend and Sister, Mary Watson, rest here the remains of Jean Watson, who died the 18th day of March 1819, aged 71. Her Nephew, William Hay of London, whom she took when an infant Orphan, and reared with affectionate carefulness, has placed this Stone to record her worth and his gratitude.

This Stone is erected by William Hunter, Fishcurer in Macduff, in memory of his Father and Mother, and his Family.

Sacred to the memory of Miss Maria Erskine, who was born in the East Indies, on the 9th Nov. 1791 ; and died at Banff, 25th May 1807.

This Stone is erected by Christian Reaper, in memory of her deceased Husband, William Reaper, sometime Surgeon in Macduff, who died 9th August 1790, aged 30. The Remains of the above Christian Reaper, who died 6th July 1825, aged 81 years, are also interred here.

Here is interred the body of John Mickie, sometime Merchant in Banff, who departed this life 10th November 1782, aged 77 ; and also the body of Elizabeth Farquharson, his Spouse, who died 8th June 1765, aged 70 years. Also, Helen, their eldest Daughter, Wife of Chaplain Mackenzie of the 78th Regiment of Foot, who died 26th October 1780, aged 60.

#### THE REIDS OF BACHLAW AND COLLEONARD.

This Stone was erected by Thomas Reid, Bachlaw, in memory of his Wife, Jean Grant, who departed this life 20th January 1782, aged

52 years; and of their Daughter, Dorothea Reid, who departed this life July 5, 1794, aged 31. Here, also, are interred the remains of William Reid of Bachlaw, only Son of the above-named Thomas Reid, who died at Colleonard the 30th March 1842, aged 84. Also, of Anne Orrok, his Spouse, who died at Colleonard the 15th of February 1828, aged 64.

[Mr William Reid had a large family of sons and daughters, all educated in Banff. William, the eldest, obtained a cadetship, and rose in the East India Company's service to the rank of Captain, and was a distinguished soldier in the Bengal army in the beginning of this century, when there was hot work and hard fighting going. His character was that of a brave officer, and no sparer of his own person when duty called; and on such an occasion, overcome by wounds and fatigue, he fell a martyr to his country's glory.

[Thomas, the second son, at an early age, got an Ensigncy in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, the 33d, at the time commanded by his uncle, Colonel Orrok, and employed in India. Our young soldier joined the corps while in the field, under Lord Lake, and was engaged in many a hard-contested fight, including the Battle of Assaye. In 1809, the Regiment was ordered to join the army sailing from the shores of India for the reduction of the valuable Islands of France and Bourbon, and he had a full share of the hard fight in taking these strongholds. The Regiment was ordered home to recruit, and very soon went on foreign service. Previous to the Battle of Waterloo, the 33d made part of a force sent against one of the strongest fortifications in Holland—Bergen-op-zoom—where they succeeded in crossing the outer ditch, scaling the rampart, and entering the fort; but not being properly supported, and the place defended by overpowering numbers, they were obliged to retrace their steps, and fearful was the struggle in getting pell-mell across the broad and deep ditch, which proved the grave of many brave fellows. Reid, being an expert swimmer, escaped, and lived to participate in the glorious fight of Waterloo; had the good fortune to see the real commander of the 33d (the Duke's own) protected within its serried squares, when the French Cuirassiers essayed their deadly charges against our infantry. At the close of the battle of the 18th, after a hard fought day, Reid was hit by a ball in the leg, and obliged to be carried to the rear for surgical assistance. He, however, lived to fight another day, came home on leave of absence, and found the use of his wounded leg. The Regiment was afterwards ordered to Jamaica, where, alas! its ranks were cruelly and ingloriously thinned by the merciless yellow fever, and he just escaped with his life. He had attained the rank of Major, and was on the eve of promotion to Lieut.-Colonel, when his health gave way and obliged him to quit the service. He was the last

man of the Regiment, of those who had been his comrades when he joined; the rest were all under the sod.

[James, the third son, an officer in the 78th Highlanders, had a full share of service about the close of the long war, and on the return of the regiment from America it was sent to Flanders in the Army of Reserve, and was hastening to join the main force at Brussels when accounts reached them of the success at Waterloo, when they were sent in a different route to assist the victorious army. After the war, Lieut. Reid retired on half-pay, and turned his sword into a ploughshare. Marrying an amiable lady, and finding his family increasing, he emigrated to Canada, and purchased the property of Laggan, twenty miles from Montreal, already in cultivation, and has continued to flourish in that locality, in additions to his clan, and in worldly prosperity. He is at present Colonel-Commandant of one of the splendid Regiments of Militia at Montreal, recently raised for the defence of their country against these American raiders.

[The other two brothers, John and Whymes, went to South America as commercial men. Whymes, in carrying one of his own ships with a cargo to the Island of Otaheite, had been shipwrecked, or the vessel foundered, as he was never heard of again. John remained to push his way in the country about Valparaiso.]

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In memory of James Black, sometime farmer at Lochterlandoch, Glenrinnnes, latterly at Milltack, King-Edward, where he died in July 1858, aged 51.

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Erected by William Miller, perfumer, Banff, in memory of his son, John, who died on the 22 Decem. 1833, aged 10 weeks: and also his daughter, Eliza, who died on 16 April 1839, aged 2 years and 4 months.

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Sacred to the memory of the children of William Dallas, gardener in Banff—Jane Mackie died 19 April 1856, aged 5; Mary died 22 October 1859, aged 12; Alexander died 16 June 1860, aged 19; John died 3 Octr. 1860, aged 21.

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Erected by Jane Cruickshank, as a mark of respect, to the memory of her husband, William Cassie, late innkeeper in Banff, who died 8 Novemr. 1834, aged 35 years.

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To the memory of Robert Wilson, mason in Banff, and Elspet Faith, his wife, who both died in 1791, the former aged 76, the other 70 years; and of their children, Robert, Elizabeth, Jean, Alexander, George, James, and William, and of their grandchildren, Thomas and

Jean Wilson. This stone is erected, as a testimony of paternal and filial affection, by Andrew Wilson. Here, too, is interred the remains of his beloved wife, Margaret Reid, a woman of liberal mind and a benevolent heart, who died in the 43d year of her age, on the 1st April 1803. Andrew Wilson died 3d March 1827, aged 76, being the last of his father's family.

[One scion of this family remains to represent it, Doctor Robert Wilson of Glenairnie Cottage, Forres—a wonderful person in his way, and of a most aspiring genius. Like other Banff youths, he had the benefit of a classical education under Rector Cruickshank, went through the curriculum of Aberdeen College, and the medical classes in Edinburgh, and, on being pronounced competent in his attainments, was appointed a surgeon in one of our large Indiamen. In the course of his many voyages, he rose to be chief surgeon and purser of one of these huge vessels. Various vicissitudes marked his progress. Cherishing a most passionate desire for travel and adventure in strange lands, and having made some money, he left the service, and took flight in the first place to the classic land of Greece, which for years he explored about the period of Lord Byron's sojourn, and had the good fortune to be associated with the poet on some interesting occasions. During his travels in Greece and Egypt, Dr Wilson made a most valuable collection of antiquities. He also had drawings and plans made of the ancient temples and cities. On his return to Calcutta after the peace, the East India Company entrusted him with three of their large vessels, laden with the produce of India and China, for disposal in the Mediterranean. He afterwards obtained a firman from the Porte, which enabled him to prosecute his travels through Turkey, and carry out his researches and explorations in the ancient cities of Egypt and Palestine, and throughout Syria, in the upper country of which he was sometime confined as a prisoner among the Arabs. Making his escape, however, he returned to India, and travelled over Hindostan and the greater part of the Peninsula and Ceylon, and various parts of China. He then made his way through Persia and the neighbouring countries, rarely traversed by Europeans, and reached the confines of Russia, visiting Moscow and St Petersburg, in which latter place he received much polite attention from one of his countrymen, Sir J. Wyllie, then chief surgeon to the Emperor. He subsequently sojourned in Italy and France, making different journeys through Portugal and Spain, part of Africa, and America. But it is out of the question to attempt to follow his peregrinations. This, however, I may state, that, when I was with him in London in 1820, he was at the head of the Travellers' Club, as one who had been the greatest traveller! In the course of these years, and while Lord Hastings held the government of Malta, Wilson acted as private secretary to

the Marquis. It was marvellous, too, the number and variety of interesting friendships he had made in his intercourse with the aristocracy of the land, and how (as he himself says) such a humble individual should have gained the favour of so many great and distinguished characters in his journey through life.]

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Erected by Martha Maclean, in Banff, to the memory of her deceased father, Charles Maclean, who died in the year 1793, aged 26 years; also of her mother, Catherine Bennet, his spouse, who died 14th Dec. 1836, aged 76 years. Here also are interred her sister, Margaret Maclean, who died in infancy, and Charles Maclean, who died in 1814, aged 21 years.

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Sacred to the memory of James Ogilvie, late vintner in Banff, who died 3d Oct. 1818, aged 46 years. This stone is erected by his spouse, Mary Wood.

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Sacred to the memory of Margaret Innes, spouse of William Reid, Town Clerk, Banff, who died 20th April 1817, aged 65 years; also of William Reid, T.C., who died 18th October 1830, aged 80 years.

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Erected to the memory of James Imlach, Merchant and Banker in Banff, who died 22d March 1820, aged 79 years; also, of Isabella Reid, his Spouse (daughter of Thomas Reid of Bachlaw), who died 25th March 1807, aged 51 years; also, interred here, the remains of their children James, who died in 1787, aged 9 years, and of John, who died in infancy; also, interred here two of the children of James Imlach (son of the above James Imlach), and of Isabella Leslie, his Spouse, daughter of the Rev. William Leslie of Balnakeith, and of Margaret Sinclair, sister of the Earl of Caithness; Margaret Sinclair Imlach, aged 10 years, and Mary Imlach, who died in infancy.

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Erected to the memory of Elspet Imlach, daughter of James Imlach, Merchant in Banff, who died 29th Nov. 1825.

[The above James Imlach, who died in 1820, had other four sons, George, who died in Edinburgh in 1864; William, a Colonel in India, in 1822; Alexander, died in Jamaica, 1802; and James, who is still alive, and the writer of these notes.]

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Erected by Alexander M'Culloch, Fiskidly, in memory of his son James, who died 17th March 1832, aged 17 years; also, his son Alexander, who died 9th Nov. 1841, aged 29 years; also his daughter Margaret, who died 16th July 1848, aged 44 years; the above-named

Alexander M'Culloch, who died 15th January 1858, aged 82 years; also Janet Mason, relict of the above-named Alexander M'Culloch, late farmer in Fiskidly, who died 26th February 1866, aged 83 years.

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Erected by Mary Williamson, Banff, in memory of her father, James Williamson, M.D., who died 8th March 1808, aged 32; also, her brother, James Williamson, who died at Daprorie, Bombay, 19th May 1828, aged 25; also her brother David Williamson, who died 2d July 1832, aged 27; also, her mother, Christina Williamson, who died 17th October 1853, aged 79; and here also are interred the remains of the said Mary Williamson, who died in London 25th May 1863, aged 57 years.

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Erected by Elizabeth Watt, in memory of her deceased husband, James Gerrard, sen., Wright in Banff, who died 14th Feb. 1843, aged 63 years. The above Elizabeth Watt died 10th March 1853, aged 65 years.

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Erected by William Lawrence, mason in Banff, in memory of his children—Isabella, died 31st Dec. 1858, aged 16 months; William, died 24th July 1863, aged 2 years and 7 months; James, died 20th April 1866, aged 1 year.

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Sacred to the memory of Richard Birnie, late saddler in Banff, who departed this life the 12th January 1812, aged 82 years; and Mrs Margaret Philip, his spouse, who departed this life the 14th August 1820, aged 84; also, Mary Birnie, their daughter, who departed this life on the 7th day of November 1831, aged 66 years.

[The Richard Birnie to whom this tombstone is erected was the father of the well-known Sir Richard Birnie, Chief Magistrate at Bow Street, and Head of the Metropolitan Police. In his Banff days, young Birnie was esteemed far above his fellows in the burgh, and, although a tradesman, was liked and countenanced by many who considered themselves in rather a higher grade of society. On reaching manhood, with a good knowledge of the business in which he had been instructed by his father, and cherishing that desire of rising in the world which most Scotchmen entertain, he resolved to start for London in quest of something better than his father's business promised.

[Arrived in the metropolis, he presented letters of recommendation, but no opening could be found for the stranger youth. Disappointment followed, and continued to damp his hopes, which necessitated an appeal to some of his old associates in the North. This met with a ready response, and they hit upon a device not likely to give offence, as he him-

self had on many occasions—lent his high talents for theatricals, when resorted to in time of need for the benefit of the deserving poor of his native town. This mode of “raising the wind” (a very good comedy by the bye) proving most successful, the young gentleman was delicately supplied with the primum mobile.

[At last he was fortunate in getting into Mackintosh & Co.’s great saddlery house, at that time patronised by the Prince Regent. Here, now, the youth had succeeded “in gaining his inch,” and he no doubt flattered himself that it should not be his fault if he did not “find the ell.”

[Patience and perseverance, with a willing mind, obliging manner, good person, and smart address, combined to raise him to be first man in the Establishment, and he not unfrequently had the honour of being consulted personally by the Prince, when he came about improvements and changes in the equipments of his own Regiment of Hussars. Young Birnie brought an increase of business to the house by his good taste. To complete his happiness, he found favour in the sight of Mr Mackintosh’s daughter, who became Mrs Birnie.

[All this, of course, took years to accomplish. Meanwhile, Mr Birnie had the ball at his foot, and found prosperity and elevation in its propulsion, of which he took all legitimate advantage; and no friend or father could have shown greater kindness than he did when any Banff youth made his appearance with a letter of introduction from any of his old friends, and many to my knowledge received kindnesses at his hand of the utmost importance to them at the time, as well as benefit in after life.

[Progressing in favour with the Regent, who saw in Birnie the man in every way fit for his purpose, he was appointed Magistrate at Bow Street Office, and installed as Director of Police and Private Attendant on His Majesty when occasion required his watchful eye, and soon after he had the honour of Knighthood conferred upon him by his Sovereign for good and faithful service.

[There are still some alive who have witnessed and read the highly amusing and graphic examinations of Sir Richard in Bow Street Court. I for one have sometimes sat by him on the bench when he had the culprits before him who had been figuring in the “night scenes of London,” and truly they astonished my northern ideas in no small degree, while his scrutiny of witnesses often elicited bursts of approbation and laughter from the surrounding crowd.]

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Erected by James Scott, Flesher in Banff, in memory of his daughter, Margaret Pirie, who died on the 7th day of Sept. 1855, aged 9 years. Also of his daughter, Eliza Morison, who died on the 17th day



of April 1862, aged 10 months. The above named James Scott died on the 19th day of April 1864, aged 51 years.

Here lies interred the body of William Joass, who departed this life 2d November 1763, aged 78 years; also the body of Margery Stewart, his wife, who departed this life 7th January 1789, aged 79 years. Here also is interred the body of Barbara Joass, daughter to the said William and Mary Joass, and wife of James Smith, gardener in Banff. She departed this life on the 17th day of March 1801, aged 79 years. A better wife, mother, Christian, or friend never left this transitory life, nor will her resignation under many afflictions and trials ever be surpassed. This stone is erected by their surviving children. Mn. Sh.

In memory of Adam Mason, late mason in Banff, who died 1st January 1811, aged 65, and his spouse, Jean Hat, who died 22d Sept. 1828, aged 72; also their grandchild, Alexander Murray Stewart, who died 22d July 1829, aged 16 months.

Erected by John Kynoch, in memory of his spouse, Helen Lorimer, who died 28th Feb. 1835, aged 28.

Erected by Alexander Glenie and Isobel Wilson, his Spouse, who have here interred the bodies of their deceased children William, who died 29th Sept. 1771, aged 1; John, who died 21st July 1788, aged 5; Isobel Wilson, above named, died 31st July 1805, aged 54 years—a Dutiful Wife and Affectionate Parent. Alexander Glennie, above named, husband to Isobel Wilson, departed this life on 16th April 1820, aged 83 years; also, is interred here their son, Alexander Glenie, who died 30th Oct. 1833, aged 61 years.

Erected by John Cowie, Flesher in Banff, and Margaret Watson, his Spouse, in memory of their beloved daughter Isobel, who died the 18th Feb. 1793, aged 9 years; also interred here their son-in-law, George Forsyth, square-wright, who died 5th Nov. 1814, aged 34 years; also the above John Cowie, who died the 19th June 1830, aged 76 years; and Margaret Watson, his Spouse, who died 18th October 1841, aged 87 years.

This stone is erected by Alexander Allaster and Jean Thomson, his Spouse, in memory of their children, viz.:—Abercromby, who died in infancy, 15th Nov. 1795; Alexander, who died 31st Oct. 1800, aged 4 years; Robert, who died 25th May, 1827, aged 24; Patrick, who died 1st August 1828, aged 37.

Sacred to the memory of Jean Thomson, Spouse of Alexander Allaster, and mother of the foresaid children, who died 24th July 1831, in the 68th year of her age.

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Erected, from filial reverence and duty, by Thomas Wilson, in Banff, to the memory of his parents, George Wilson, rope and sail maker, and one of the magistrates of Banff, who died 5th Febr. 1816, aged 72 years; and Margaret Philip, his spouse, who died 19 day of April 1816, aged 72 years—both interred here.

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Sacred to the memory of James Grant, who departed this life 8th June 1816, aged 70.

This stone is placed by George Robinson & Co., to record the worth of the deceased, who acted as their principal clerk and accountant for fifty years; during which long period he was uniformly distinguished for the greatest accuracy in business, and the most prudent and upright conduct.

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To the memory of Margaret Watson, wife of Alexander Blake, merchant in Banff, who died 6th August 1832, aged 37 years; and their family—Alexander, who died 7 June 1830, aged 3 years; Mary Anne, who died 6 April 1831, aged 4 years; William, who died at Musselburgh 12 Jan. 1856, aged 30; Robert, who died at Musselburgh 6 Nov. 1858, aged 34 years; and James, who died at Aberdn. 20 April 1861, aged 32.

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To the memory of Alexander Tillary, Town Chamberlain, and solicitor in Banff, who died 21 Novem. 1827, aged 64 years. This stone is erected by his affectionate widow, Elspet Clark.

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Sacred to the memory of Helen Robertson, daughter of George Robertson, formerly Rector of Banff Academy, born 5 Febr. 1748, died 9 June 1827.

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Sacred to the memory of Janet Forsyth, the beloved wife of Charles Macrae, Inland Revenue Officer, Banff, who died here 4th March 1859, aged 27 years.

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Erected by James Johnston, tailor in Banff, and Isabella Murray, his spouse, in memory of their son, Gordon Johnston, who died 20 Oct. 1821, aged 21.

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Sacred to the memory of Alexander Lillie, merchant in Banff, who

died on 26 day of Janry. 1854, aged 62 years; also Jannet Whyte, his spouse, who died on the 27 day of August 1852, aged 52 years.

[Baillie Lillie, for a long time, held a place in the Town Council. His business as merchant draper was for many years of extraordinary extant, one of the largest, we believe, in the north of Scotland.]

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This is the Burial-place of the deceased John Gordon, late lawyer in Banff, and of his son-in-law, James Gray. In remembrance of their children, Margaret and Henry Gordon, and Archinna Calder Gray, and John Gray, under age, Novr. 20, 1790. Here also is interred the remains of Alexander Gray, soap manufacturer in Banff, who died 19 Decem. 1819, aged 41. Here also are interred the remains of David Gray, candle manufacturer in Banff, who died, happy in the Lord, with a well-grounded hope of a glorious resurrection, the 6 Novemr. 1832, aged 50.

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This Stone was erected by John Grant, Cooper in Banff, to the memory of his Son, William Grant, who died 27th August 1787, aged 2 years.

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In memory of James Sim, who died 10th October 1822, aged 40 years; Marion Grant, died 5th July 1860, aged 72; Margaret Sim, died 4th June 1857, aged 27; John James Sim, died at Calcutta 8th August 1854, aged 45; James William Sim, lost at sea, 13th December 1856, aged 36.

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Sacred to the memory of Margaret Stuart, late Midwife in Banff, who died 3d May 1814, aged 78. Also, Jane Robertson, Daughter of Peter Robertson, who died 10th March 1819, aged 9 years; and Jane Wilson, Wife of John Robertson, Tinsmith, Banff, who died 27th June 1837, aged 27 years; also, Peter Robertson, Staymaker in Banff, who died 30th December 1841, aged 85 years; likewise, Isabella Stuart, his Spouse, who died on 11th June 1842, aged 72; and John, their Son, died 11th January 1848, aged 43 years.

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Sacred to the memory of James Farquhar, Comptroller of Customs, Banff, who departed this life 13th July 1823, aged 51. He was an affectionate Husband, a kind Parent, a warm and steady Friend, and distinguished in all his transactions by justice and honour. Died on the 8th August 1823, and interred here, James, his eldest Son, late Merchant in Aberdeen, aged 28 years. Died on the 22d May 1839, Elizabeth, aged 13; and Elizabeth Farquhar, relict of James Farquhar, died 18th April 1840, aged 76 years.

Erected to the memory of William Mathieson, sometime Mason in Banff, who died 18th May 1808, aged 64. He was a friendly, benevolent, open-hearted man, and a strict observer of every religious duty. Elizabeth Anderson, his Spouse, died 15th April 1807, aged 64. A quiet and sincere Christian. Also, their Daughter, Jane Mathieson, who died 25th July 1843, aged 76.

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Erected by William Collie, Shipowner, Banff, as a tribute of filial respect, in memory of his Son, Robert Bremner Collie, who departed this life December 4, 1847, aged 3 years; and of his affectionate Spouse, Isabella Thomson, who also departed this life 30th April 1848, aged 29 years.

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This stone is erected by William Hodge, cooper in Banff, in memory of his deceased father, John Hodge, who died 3d June 1804, aged 53 years; also his sister, Jean Hodge, who died 3d October 1832, aged 34 years; also in memory of his mother, Susan West, who died 4th Feb. 1839, aged 85.

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Erected by Thomas Collie, flesher in Banff, in memory of Mary Beech, his mother-in-law, who died 25th May 1845, aged 64 years; also of his son, David Collie, who died 22d Feb. 1846, aged 10 years.

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Erected by Thomas Richardson, painter, in memory of his uncle, John Richardson, born in Edinburgh 21st July 1758, died in Banff 28th Oct. 1825; also in memory of Grant Christie, spouse of Thos. Richardson, painter, who died 28th Sept. 1837, aged 37.

[Thomas Richardson was for some years Provost of Banff, and second Chief Magistrate after the passing of the Reform Bill. In early life, he had little advantage from education, being constantly occupied in the exercise of the brush. This, however, did not prevent him from studying privately, and reading up, so as to acquire a knowledge of what was going on in the world, with a smattering of ancient lore, which, with a taste for poetry and theatricals, brought him on the stage, when the cry of the needy and dearth of the staff of life was over the land, to give his assistance in raising the needful for a supply to the poor of the town. At his uncle's death, he succeeded to considerable property, which gave him a status in the town about the period when politics ran high, and the trades' people all alive to extension of the franchise. His ardour in this cause brought him out as a public speaker in advocating the cause of Reform.]

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Erected to the memory of Patrick Campbell Macarthur, son of

Alexander and Mary Macarthur, of Calcutta, who died at Banff on the 8th April 1848, aged 6 years. "Of such is the kingdom of heaven."

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Erected by John Morrison, shipmaster in Banff, to the memory of his son, John, who died 23d Feb. 1833, aged 2 years; also his brother, Garden, who died 24th October 1836, aged 21 years.

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M. S. Elizabethæ Abernethie, Viduæ Hugonis Innes, A.M., quædam rem sacram in Ecclesiæ de Mortleach, summa fidelitate demonstravit. Remota quanquam corpora animæ, tamen juncta immortaliter gaudent in Deo consortio. Obiit. illa 8vo. id. Apr., anno Æræ Christianæ, MDCCLL.

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1860. Sacred to the memory of Ranald Macgregor, Esq., who died at Banff, 29th May 1846, aged 70, and of his wife, Margaret Farquharson, who died 19th Dec. 1860, aged 82; likewise of the following members of their family:—Helen and Charles, who both died young; Christian Atholine, wife of Peter Macarthur, who died in Calcutta, Feb. 1845, aged 26; Grace Ross, who died at Pleasant Hill, Jamaica, 27th April 1859, aged 48; also Christian Atholine Farquharson, sister of Mrs Macgregor, who died 14th Feb. 1847, aged 67; and of Grace Gordon Farquharson, mother of the same, who died in 1828.

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This Stone was placed by William Duff of Liverpool, to mark the spot where the remains of his Parents are deposited—Robert, was born 11th October 1748, and died the 5th May 1810; Isabel, was born 1st June 1745, and died 9th January 1813. Mrs Helen Leslie, Grandmother of the said William Duff, died 21st November 1819, aged 97 years, and also lyes interred here. William Duff, son of Robert Duff, died 27th December 1842, aged 69 years; and also his Spouse, Sarah Reid, who died 1st August 1851, aged 70 years.

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This Gravestone is erected to the memory of James Nicoll, Weaver in Banff, who died 15th May 1735; and William Nicoll, Weaver in Banff, who died 1st April 1738, by John Nicoll, Weaver in Banff, and Margaret Pringle, their Parents.

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Sacred to the memory of James Russell, son of James Russell, Royal Navy, who departed this life 6th April 1796, aged 3 years.

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Erected by an affectionate Widow to the memory of a worthy Husband: Lieutenant-Colonel James Wiseman, late of the 53d Regiment,

departed this life 4th April 1800, aged 48 years. Their infant Son, Francis, is also interred here. Beneath are likewise interred the remains of Edmund Wiseman, their eldest Son; this amiable and highly accomplished young man was born at Banff, 9th October 1798, and died at Aberdeen 16th September 1816.

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Sacred to the memory of William Watson, late Blacksmith in Banff, who died 27th December 1831, aged 66 years; and of his Children—Jane, died 7th October 1838, aged 40 years; Agnes, died 22d April 1839, aged 28; John and Agnes, died in infancy; William Watson, Blacksmith, died September 1848, aged 13 years.

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Erected by Peter Coutts, Merchant Tailor in Banff, in memory of his beloved Wife, Susan M'Hattie, who died 31st August 1858, aged 45 years.

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Erected by Barbara Hossack, widow, in memory of William Hossack, cooper in Banff, her faithful and affectionate husband, a kind parent, and a worthy honest man, who died 17th December 1819, aged 72; and of their children, Bathia, who died 3d April 1795, aged 11 years; Anne, who died at Aberdeen, 27th March 1820, aged 31 years. Here are also deposited the remains of Barbara Shand, Relict of said William Hossack, who died 21st January 1832, aged 73; and of their daughter Bathia Hossack, the affectionate and beloved wife of James Findlay, shipmaster, Banff, who died 21st November 1861, aged 65.

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Sacred to the memory of John Harden of Ardyne, who died at Duff House on 31st December 1810, aged 61 years, universally esteemed for the uniform propriety and incorruptible integrity that marked his conduct during 40 years that he was employed in the service of the late James and Alexander, Earls of Fife.

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Here lies the body of Charles Shand, sometime Farmer in Gellymill, who departed this life 19th January 1739. This Stone was reared to his Memory by Barbara Milne, his Spouse; also, of his son Alexander Shand, tenant in Gellyhill; and Bathia Milne, his Spouse, who died 12th May, aged 83, and he on 21st July, aged 84.

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Here is interred the body of Barbara Bruce, daughter of John Bruce, Merchant in Banff, who departed this life 19th Feb. 1768, aged 26 years; and also the body of Robina Hunter, his Spouse, who departed this life 24th Feb. 1783, aged 74; likewise, the remains of John Bisset and Annie Forbes, who died at Macduff in 1812, aged 42. Here also

is interred the remains of Jean Bisset, daughter of the late William Bisset and Isabella Bruce, who died at Macduff 20th April 1866, aged 83. Inscribed in grateful remembrance by their nephew, Grant James Gray.

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Erected by Grant James Gray, Liverpool, to the memory of his beloved mother, Elizabeth Bisset (daughter of the late William Bisset and Isabella Bruce, and Spouse of the late James Gray), who died at Macduff 28th November 1858, aged 71 years. Here also rest the remains of Maria Isabella Gray, daughter of James Gray and Elizabeth Bisset, who died at Macduff, August 1831, aged 1 year. The above James Gray died at Georgetown, Demerara, 26th Nov. 1839, aged 43 years.

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Here lyes interred the body of Alexander Bruce, sometime Farmer in Cushnie, Gamrie Parish, who departed this life 20th Feb. 1769, aged 90 years. This is done by his son John Bruce. Here likewise rest the remains of William Bisset, son of William Bisset and Isabella Bruce, who died at Macduff 7th March 1785, aged 12 months; also, their daughter, Isabella Bisset, who died 14th January 1801, aged 21 years; also, their son, Alexander Bisset, who died 22d January 1801, aged 22 years.

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Here lies the body of James Bruce, late Shipmaster, Macduff, who died the 12th of February 1789, aged 73. This Stone was erected by Isabella Whyte, in memory of her husband, an honest man, without guile; also William Bisset, son-in-law of the above James Bruce, who died in 1812, and Isabella Bruce, his Spouse, who died 27th May 1837, and their son, James Bisset, late Captain of H.M. 69th Regiment, who died 16th September 1838, much and justly regretted.

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Here lyes the ashes of James Clark, sometime Bailie in Banff, who departed this life October 22, 1724, and also Walter and Jean Clark. Elspet Gray, his spouse, died January 26, 1740, in the 57th year of her age.

[The representative of this old family of Clark and Cruickshank is our present talented Sheriff-Clerk, Mr George R. Forbes, whose ancestor on the female side was Mr Cruickshank, Laird of Monellie, whose son was Bailie Cruickshank of Banff, and his daughter, the wife of the late Sheriff Forbes of Banff, was Mr George R. Forbes's mother. Sheriff Forbes possessed an acute discernment of the human character, was profoundly versed in the law, and admirable in taking evidence and the art of cross-examination. Sheriff Forbes had two sons and two daughters. The eldest son, Lewis, minister of Boharm, and educated in Banff, was a distinguished member of the Church of Scotland. When Boharm

became vacant in 1816, there were two candidates for the living, which was in the gift of the late Earl of Fife. This nobleman's characteristic was justice and liberality in such matters, and having a warm favour for both divines, anxious, too, to avoid cause for jealousy, proposed that the benefice should be decided by "the turn or toss of the bawbee," which, on being whirled on high, came down and lighted in favour of young Forbes. Soon after, however, the kind-hearted Earl bestowed the Church of Turriff on the other favourite, the late Rev. Dr James Cruickshank. Sheriff Forbes's surviving son, Mr G. R. Forbes, is well known among us as a most intelligent and clever functionary, learned in the law, and perfect in the routine of the Sheriff's Courts.]

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Sacred to the memory of John Cruickshank, merchant in Banff, who departed this life 25th January 1749, aged 44, and Catherine Clark, his wife, who died June 29, 1781, aged 71 years. This stone is erected by their daughter, Elspet Cruickshank, as a testimony of filial regard.

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In memory of John Smith, house-builder, Banff, who died 23 Septemr. 1826, aged 59 years.—Erected by his affectionate widow, Mary Milne. The widow of John Smith died on the 27 Janry. 1833, aged 56.

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Robert Innes, Town-Clerk of Banff, and Margt. Gilchrist, his spouse, died 22 January 1786, and both are interred here.

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Here lyeth interred the body of Margaret Sim, spouse of John Sim, sometime merchant in Banff; she died 8 Janry. 1785, aged 64 years. This stone is erected to the memory of his son, William Sim, shipmaster in London; also are interred the body of the above John Sim, who died 21 Febr. 1788, aged 80; also the remains of John Findlater, late shoemaker in Macduff, who departed this life the 6 June 1815, aged 68 years; and Elizabeth Sim, his spouse, daughter of the said John Sim, who died 24 March 1833, aged 86 years; also their son, William Findlater, who died 6th May 1866, aged 83 years.

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Erected to the memory of James Sim, late of the Island of St Vincent, who was born at Banff 11 Nov. 1759, and died 27th May 1825; and of his spouse, Elizabeth M'Killigin, also born at Banff 22d Novem. 1761, and died 24th March 1826. Here also rest the remains of their daughter Elizabeth, born at Banff 13th May 1805, and died 27th Novem. 1810. Their only son, James George Sim, M.D., H.E.I.C.S., who was born at Banff 4 March 1804, died at Singapore 10 Sept. 1830, and was interred there.



Here lie interred the remains of John Sim, late of the island of Antigua, who died the 29th day of November 1807, aged 60. Also, Mary Stephen, his spouse, who died 29th day of Feb. 1847, aged 91 years.

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Here lie the ashes of John Steinson, some time merchant and Bailie in Banff, who departed this life in 1661, and also Isobel Broekie, his spouse, who departed this life in 1693, with their children—Isobell, John, Alexander, Margaret, Christian, Elspet, Janet, Jean, and Katharine Steinsons.

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Here is interred the body of William Wilson, some time Manager of the Salmon Fishings in Banff, who departed this life the 11th of February 1781, aged 53 years. Also are interred here the mortal remains of Isabella Hossack, daughter of Alexander Hossack, Cooper in Banff, who died the 3d Feb. 1821, aged 9 years; and in memory of the above Alexander Hossack, who died 19th November 1840, aged 58 years. Here are interred the remains of William Hossack, jun., Merchant and Draper in Banff, second son of the said Alexander Hossack, who died on the 26th May 1857, aged 36; and of Hannah Glennie, spouse of the said Alexander Hossack, who died at Banff the 20th day of March 1864, aged 81.

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Here lies interred Mrs Mary Gordon, daughter of George Gordon, Esq. of Badenscoth, and spouse to John Abernethie of Corskie; she died 5th June 1750, aged 48. Here is also interred the body of the said John<sup>a</sup> Abernethie of Corskie, who died the 22d day of June 1775, aged 71 years. This stone is erected by Alex. Abernethie of Corskie, in memory of his children, viz.—Alexander Abernethie, who departed 17th March 1723, aged 13; Ann Abernethie died 20th Dec. 1725, aged 7 years; Isobel Abernethie died 22d Dec. 1726, aged 18.

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This stone was erected by John and Alexander Caies, Slaters, Freeman and Burgesses in Banff, to the memory of their uncle, John Caie, Slater, who died September 1733, and his spouse, Janet Dawson, who died 7th October 1770.

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Underneath this stone lies all that is mortal of the late Mrs Helen Gordon, daughter of William Gordon, Esqr. of Dalachy, and spouse to the deceased Alexander Abernethie, Esqr. of Corskie, a dutiful and virtuous wife, a most affectionate mother, a valuable friend, and one of the best of Christians. She resigned this life for one infinitely better, the 4th day of Decem. 1751 years, leaving her disconsolate relations to

bewail a loss which was her gain. In grateful remembrance of so amiable and indulgent a parent, this stone is erected by their youngest son, the Revd. Doctor William Abernethie Drummond of Hawthornden, anno 1781. Here also are deposited the remains of Mrs Ann Abernethie, daughter of the above Al. Abernethie of Corskie, and spouse of Mr Robert Forbes, late of Gaik, in the parish of Cruden. She departed this life on the 9th of May 1810, in the 86 year of her age.

This stone is erected by Janet Wilson, in memory of her affectionate husband, James Wast, seaman in Macduff, who died 18 Novr. 1792, aged 56. There are also interred here two of her children, who died in nonage.

Erected by John A. Mann, bootmaker in Banff, to the memory of his son, William Henry Mann, who died 15 Decem. 1854, aged 7 months; also of his spouse, Isabella King, who died 15 Novem. 1854, aged 38.

In memory of Mary, wife of John Bold, Collector of H. M. Customs, who died 12 May 1853; also, Mrs Ann Bold, mother of the said John Bold, who died at Banff 17 Febr. 1848, and whose remains are interred near this spot; also, the said John Bold, who died 22 Janry. 1862, aged 47 years; also, his cousin, Elizabeth Justiman, who died 26 Feby. 1862, aged 50 years.

Erected by James Simpson, merchant in Banff, and Lillias Mackay, his spouse, to the memory of their son, Alexander Simpson, land-surveyor, who died 19 May 1846, aged 21 years. Here also are interred the remains of Janet Morrison, wife of their son, James, who died at the farm of Colleopard on the 5 June 1857, aged 29 years; and of Lillias Mackay (named above), who died 6th Febr. 1862, aged 75.

The representatives of these families are Mr James Simpson, farmer at Colleopard, and Mr Alexander Simpson, of the firm of Biggar, Nisbet, & Co., herring merchants.

In memory of Alexander Simpson, late Shipmaster in Banff, and of his wife, Jean Smith, who died 19th May 1810, aged 44, and is buried in London. She died 8th Jannary 1839, aged 73, and is interred here. Here also lie their sons, Alexander, who died in 1818, aged 21; their son John died at Canton 10th Nov. 1822, aged 23 years.

Erected 20th June 1815, by James Gardener, late of Jamaica, as a tribute of affection and respect to the memory of his grandfather and

grandmother, George Gardener and Elspet Brown; and of his father, James Gardener, who died 22d April 1790, aged 70, and his mother, Elspet Wilson, who died in 1795, aged 75 years.

Sacred to the memory of James Gardener, Esq., late of the Island of Jamaica, who died at Banff the 22d day of May 1820, aged 60 years; and of Mrs Margaret Aven or Gardener, his spouse, who died in Banff 8th May 1831, aged 69 years. Also of John Milne Gardener, who died at Bombay 29th July 1852, aged 19 years. Also of Alexander Wallace Gardener, who died at Aberdeen 1st November 1858, aged 17 years, sons of Alexander Gardener of Greenskairs, parish of Gamery.

Sacred to the memory of James Saunders, late Physician in Banff, who died in November 1778, aged 61 years, and of his spouse, Mrs Bathia Leslie of Melrose, who died 31st January 1793, aged 82. Their son, Mr Alexander Saunders, died at Banff 22d January 1801, aged 44. His eldest son, Robert, died in the Island of Jamaica 3d Sept. 1811, aged 16. This humble tribute of respect is offered to the memory of her affectionate father, of his worthy parents, and of his beloved brother, by Bathia Cherry Saunders. 1812.

Erected by James Brown, manufacturer, Banff, and Elizabeth Johnston, his spouse, in memory of their children—William, who died 16 Decem. 1794, aged 3 years; Mary, who died in Decem. 1795. In memory also of the said Elizabeth Johnston, who died 8 Oct. 1811, in the 52 year of her age; and of the above James Brown, who died 7 January 1823, aged 70 years.

Erected by Elizabeth Johnston to the memory of her husband, William Brown, manufacturer and stampmaster in Banff, who died 19 Septem. 1829, aged 80 years. The above Elizabeth Johnston died 18 Septem. 1841, aged 101 years.

#### CASSIE MONUMENT.

Memoriae Patricii Cassie, celebris hujusce burgi mercatoris, plurimisque ejus honoribus perfuncti, qui, notus animi raris datibus praediti, multisque virtutibus, conjux paterque amantissimus, pauperibus amicus consulensque, burgi commode semper intentus, privilegiorumque burgensium suorum nunquam non assertor strenuus, diem obiit 3<sup>ia</sup> calendas Julii, anno salutis 1793, ætatis suæ 73. Cippum hunc cari monumentum honoratque connubii, putatisque in parentem nunquam satis venerandum, sacrum voliere vidua luctuosa Jannetta Bisset, filique moestissimi Jacobus et Patricius.

**Translation**—To the memory of Patrick Cassie, Merchant of this Burgh, and one who enjoyed very many of its honours. A man distinguished for a mind endued with rare gifts and many virtues, a most affectionate spouse and parent, kind and considerate to the poor, at all times intent for the good of the Burgh, and ever a firm upholder of the privileges of his fellow-citizens. He died 29th June, the year of Grace 1793, aged 73 years. His sorrowing widow, Janet Bisset, and mourning sons, James and Patrick, have raised this monument as a memorial of a loving and honourable union, and of affection to a parent never to be sufficiently revered.

[The family of Cassie was one of considerable standing in the town of Banff; and Bailie Cassie was of no mean importance in the management of its municipal affairs, and had the credit of being a wealthy merchant, carrying on extensive business. Being a man of letters, it was his bent to give his sons the advantage of good education, and had them placed at the Grammar School and Aberdeen College. It is well known that his three sons—James, Patrick, and Alexander—turned out men of genius and scholastic acquirement.

[James, the eldest, had superior talent as a linguist, and, being a favourite in the family of the Chief Magistrate of the town—Provost George Robinson—was induced to accompany his two eldest sons as tutor in making the tour of Europe. I very well remember Mr James Cassie while residing here on the competency which his father left him, and giving instruction as a favour to some young friends in French, German, Greek, and Latin, and particularly in Astronomy, exhibiting in connection with the latter a most ingenious and admirable “ Orrery ” of his own construction. In after years, Mr Cassie, not finding sufficient scope for his tastes or talents in the confined sphere of Banff life, removed to Edinburgh, where he resided in comfortable circumstances till his death, at an advanced age.

[Patrick Cassie settled down as a lawyer in his native town, and rose to considerable eminence in his profession.

[Alexander Cassie, whose memory the poor of Banff may sincerely bless and praise, emigrated to London, went on his course warily, and in the end successfully, while little notice was taken by his friends here of his progress, unless when any of them popped into his quarters on their visits to the Metropolis. He had, however, been laying up good store for the old place, for which he invariably expressed a tender regard, and in the end left the greater part of his fortune to the poor of Banff, as we have fully described in the list of charitable bequests in the history of the town, the sum left amounting to about twenty thousand pounds.

[The family is represented in Banff by Mrs Christie, the wife of Mr

Christie, solicitor; and, in England, by Mrs Powell, the wife of Mr Powell, residing near Chester, the daughter of the late Lieut. George Mackay and of Janet Paterson of this town.]

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Here lies the body of Mary Innes, wife of Alexander Paterson, a loving, faithful, and dutiful wife, in prosperity and adversity, who departed this life January 28, 1744; with their children—James, aged five years; William, aged seven; Alexander, John, and Jean Paterson. Also, the body of Mary Ramsay, her mother, wife of Colonel James Innes, a loving and dutiful wife and mother, who departed this life 24 Sept. 1747. Sacred to the memory of the above Alexander Paterson, merchant in Banff, husband to the said Mary Innes, and father of the above children, here interred, who was, according to his ability, charitable to the poor, and ready to relieve those in distress, who departed this life 3 March 1775, aged 80 years. Death is the gate of Life!

---

To the memory of a dear and lovely child, Jessie Mackay, eldest daughter of Lieutenant George Mackay and Janet Paterson, who died 27th July 1825, aged 5 years and 10 months. Lieut. George Mackay died 24 July 1861; and his spouse, Janet Paterson or Mackay, died in 1866.

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1857.—Erected by William Lyon, merchant, Banff, in memory of his mother-in-law, Margaret Hossack, who died 8 May 1856, aged 70 years, relict of Captain James Clayton, who died at Miramichi 18 May 1818, aged 37 years; and of their son, Captain Joseph Clayton, who died at Belfast, 7 Janry. 1847, aged 33 years, sincerely loved in life, deeply deplored in death.

---

Erected by Duncan Robertson, Supervisor of Excise, Banff, in memory of his son, William Robertson, Student in Divinity, who died 23d July 1826, aged 20 years.

[The above family left Banff many years ago. The brother of the young student to whom the stone is erected is Mr Robertson, late M.P. for Shrewsbury, and justly respected in that country.]

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Sacred to the memory of Thomas Blake, Inspecting Commander of the Coast Guard, who died here the 25th Febr. 1841, aged 52 years; also of his wife, Frances Gregson, who died 5th May 1856, aged 60 years; and to the memory of James Smith, youngest son of Thomas and Frances Gregson Blake, who departed this life on the 21st Decem. 1834, aged 2 years; and of his brother, William Wade Blake, who died at Lombock on the 11th Decemr. 1839, aged 16 years.

Erected by Mary Simpson, to the memory of her husband, James Bayley, shipowner in Banff, who died the 28 July 1860, aged 49 years.

To the memory of her dear father, James Morrison, and of her mother, Margaret Morrison, and of her sisters, Margaret, Jane, and Susan Morrison, and of her daughter, Sarah Margaret Pearse, all of whom were buried near this spot. This stone has been erected by Sarah Pearse, A.D. 1865, and whose death at Wansted, near London, 30 June 1867, aged 61, is here lovingly recorded by her surviving children.

Erected to the memory of Christian Wilson, who departed this life 12th March 1823, aged 71 years. Here also rests the mortal parts of Jessie Wilson, younger daughter of John Wilson, Esqr., Banff; a flower of fairest promise, and transplanted to Paradise above, 7 March 1812, in the ninth year of her age. Also, the mortal remains of Captain John Wilson, of the ship "Deveron," much esteemed as a man and a gentleman; and of his beloved spouse, Margaret Wilson—both dying at a great old age.

[The only surviving member of Captain John Wilson's family is the Hon. James Milne Wilson, of the Tasmania Parliament, who, in January this year 1868, filled the high office of Worshipful Mayor of the flourishing city of Hobart Town. On the arrival of the Duke of Edinburgh in the *Galatea* in that colony in January last, we find Mr J. M. Wilson doing the honours to the Prince on his landing in the Tasmanian capital. "The lower wharf at the harbour," says the *Hobart Town Journal*, had been fenced off for the accommodation of the officials and gentlemen holding cards of entree from the Royal Reception Commission. In the centre of the enclosure was a raised dais covered with Indian matting, and bearing the chair of his Worship the Mayor, and chairs for the Aldermen and Corporation. The company holding invitations were arriving about 11 o'clock at the time His Royal Highness left his vessel. They comprised their Honours the Judges in their robes; the Bishop of Tasmania, with purple cassock and scarlet gown; the venerable Arch-deacon, with an innumerable host of dignitaries, the Governor and Staff, &c., &c. His Worship the Mayor arrived at 12 o'clock, accompanied by his Chaplain and Town Clerk. He drove up in a handsome open carriage, drawn by four splendid bay horses, the attendants wearing a handsome livery of blue and silver. The Mayor was in his full robes of office, viz., full court dress and sword, over which he wore a magnificent silk robe, with black velvet collar and gold lace, and around his neck a massive chain of gold, and on his head the time-honoured chapeau-bras. On landing, his Royal Highness took his place in the state carriage, and drove up to the dais, where his Worship the Mayor and Corporation

were in waiting to receive the Prince. His Worship, advancing to the front of the dais, addressed his Royal Highness in the following words :—

Permit me, Sir, to welcome your Royal Highness to the Capital of Tasmania in behalf of the loyal citizens of Hobart Town. I assure you, Sir, that we are deeply grateful to Her Majesty for this gracious visit, and we are proud to see a son of our beloved Sovereign come amongst us as a guest. The City Council has endeavoured to embody our sentiments on this auspicious occasion in an address, which your Royal Highness has graciously consented to receive, and, with your Royal Highness's permission, the Town Clerk will now read the address."

[It would engross too much space to describe the various receptions and gay doings which characterised the festive visit, and in which our Banff citizen and proprietor took a leading part, but I think it will please every brother citizen to read the beautiful reply which his Royal Highness returned to the public welcome, in his clear distinct enunciation. The Prince said :—

"Gentlemen,—I accept with sincere gratification the address you have just read, in which you bid me welcome to your shores, and, on behalf of the Queen, I thank you for the expressions of loyalty to Her Majesty contained in it.

"The beauty of the scenery in the neighbourhood of your town, as well as the hearty reception with which you have greeted me, will long remain in my memory ; and while I thank you for the prayers you offer up in my behalf, I wish to assure you that nothing has gratified me during my visit to Australia more than the unanimous desire of the people of each Colony to impress upon me their loyalty for the Queen, and their love for England.

(Signed) "ALFRED.

"To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens  
"of the City of Hobart Town."

[I also observe that his Worship the Mayor, invited the Prince to a banquet in the Town Hall before he proceeded to the north, to be provided at his Worship's expense, in the following card :—

"TOWN-HALL, HOBART TOWN,  
"6th January 1868.

"Sir,—As Mayor of Hobart Town, I am desirous of being permitted to entertain His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh at a Banquet in the Town-Hall.

"I have to request that you will have the kindness to lay before the Prince my wish on this point, and take His Royal Highness's pleasure as to the day and hour when it would be most agreeable to His Royal Highness to honour such a Banquet with his presence.

"I have the honour to be,

"Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) "JAMES MILNE WILSON.

"To the Equerry in Waiting, &c.,  
"H.M.S. Galatea."

[I shall close this episode in the life of our fortunate townsman by saying "Honour to whom honour is due;" and, certainly, to some of us citizens of the old burgh it is gratifying to see one, who was born and educated among us, in a position to entertain the gallant son of our gracious and beloved Queen in the land of his adoption, exemplifying what I say, that we have had, even within the compass of our memory, many clever and meritorious men among us, competent to act their part in any situation of life with credit to themselves, and honour to their country.]

---

Erected by William Wilson in Doun, in memory of his affectionate spouse, Margaret Bruce, who died 6 March 1782, aged 60 years. The above William Wilson died 28th Decem. 1796, aged 97; also, his grand-child, Helen, only daughter of James Nicol, shipmaster in Macduff, died 25 January 1821, aged 19; also, the said James Nicol, died the 4th day of October 1830, aged 58 years, and his relict, Elspit Wilson, died the 10th of January 1843, aged 76 years.

---

Erected by George Cumming, writer in Banff, to the memory, and in token of affection for his beloved wife, Elizabeth Frazer, who died on the 16 day of Decem. 1853, aged 34 years.

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Erected by Helen Ord to the memory of her affectionate husband, Abercromby Shirriffs, late shoemaker in Banff, who died 4th May 1857, aged 62 years.

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Sacred to the memory of Celia Ronald, our dearly beloved mother, who died on the 2d May 1857, aged 47 years, and our sisters, Mary Ann Amelia, who died 12th Dec. 1845, aged 3 years; Grace Jessie Duff, who died 8th Sept. 1859, aged 13 years, and Robina, who died in childhood; and in memory of our father, Alexander Blake, late Merchant in Banff, who died 1st May 1863, aged 65 years. This monument is erected by the surviving children of Alexander and Celia Blake.

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This stone is placed by Adam Ramsay, Cabinetmaker, Banff, in memory of a worthy mother, Jane Reid, who departed this life 21st Nov. 1842, in the 88th year of her age.

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Sacred to the memory of John Leslie, who died 9th April 1836, aged 48 years; and Jane Watt, his wife, who died July 1843, aged 54 years; also three of their children, Charlotte, John, and Charles, who died in youth and infancy.



As a small tribute of respect, this stone is erected by Kennedy Clark, Baker in Banff, to the memory of his loving wife, Mary Johnston, who died 24th March 1801, aged 48 years, and also five of their children, who died in their infancy.

The remains of Kennedy Clark are now also deposited here. He died 19th Nov. 1819, in his 71st year, having likewise survived his only other child, William, who died on board H.M.S. Severn, of which he was Asst.-Surgeon in October 1816.

There is an ancient tablet in the Churchyard which had marked the resting-place and virtues of the Rev. Alexander Seton, Minister of Banff and Inverboindie, and his death in the year 1679. The inscription is effaced by atmospheric influence and other causes, but let us keep sight of the poetical effusion which did honour to his many graces. All that can be read of the inscription is as follows:—

Lo! here interred lies the pretious dust of that renowned . . . &c.  
1679.

Soul-saving Seton!  
Preacher in this town,  
The key of knowledge,  
And glory of the gown!

There is another bright and laudatory stanza, sounding the praises of one of our worthies of Town-Clerks, which is also worthy of being kept in remembrance:—

Here lies, under hope of a blessed Resurrection, John Andrew, sometime Town-Clerk of Banff, who departed this life 24 Sept. 1689; also, here lyes Janet, John, George, Margaret, and Walter Andrew's children, lawfully procreated betwixt said Jo. Andrew and his spouse, Jean Ritchie.

*On John Andrew, Town-Clerk of Banff.*

Here lies a man whose tongue and pen  
Did what they could to profit men;  
His life did prove most Christian,  
So rests, to rise to glorie again!

Erected by John Sim, saddler in Banff, in memory of his daughter, Mary, who died 4th Janry. 1819, aged 13. His son, George, died 10 July 1821, aged 7 years; James died 14 August 1821, aged 1 year; John died 15 Sept. 1827, aged 16 years; and William died 30 July 1828, aged 13 years. Also, the remains of Mrs Margaret Watt, the faithful and affectionate wife of John Sim, who died the 26th day of July 1826, aged 46 years.

Erected by Barbara Watt, in memory of her father, William Watt, who died in Banff the 1st August 1790, aged 41 years; and of his

spouse, Elizabeth Watt, who died the 6th October 1812, aged 72 years. Also, their daughter, Anne, who died in Hackney, London, 9 Decem. 1849, aged 75. Here also is interred the above-named Barbara Watt, late of Hackney Road, London, who died at Macduff, 28 September 1853, aged 81.

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In memory of John Robb, late manufacturer in Banff, who died 14 Janry. 1808, aged 52 years. This stone was erected by his affectionate spouse, Catherine Robb, as a mark of esteem. Also their son, James Robb, who died 2 June 1821, aged 25 years; also, Margaret, aged 24 years, who died 6 July 1828.

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In the well-grounded hope of their glorious resurrection unto life everlasting, through the obedience, death, resurrection, and intercession of Jesus Christ, James Robertson and Lillias Grant have here interred the bodies of their deceased Children—Alexander, who died in February 1771, aged 1 year; Mary, died in July 1773, aged 9 years; Thomas, died in August 1773, aged 5 years; William, died in February 1778, aged 4 years; James, died in February 1791, aged 14 years. Also are interred here, the remains of the above James Robertson, who died the 9th March 1819, aged 81 years; and Lillias Grant, his Spouse, who died in January 1815; and of Lewis Robertson, their Son, late Solicitor and Town Chamberlain of Banff, who died on the 17th November 1820, in his 39th year.

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In affectionate remembrance of William Walker, Shipbuilder, who died 29th March 1827, aged 70; and of his Wife, Christian Thomson, who died 7th May 1827, aged 75; and his first Wife, Jean Creighton, who died in 1795, aged 25.

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James Sellar erected this small memorial to his most affectionate Mother, Anne Littlejohn, who died the 8th of March 1800, aged 55 years; as also of his four Children; and of Alexander, who died the 7th day of December 1814, aged 21 years.

---

Erected to the memory of John Marshall and Christian Brebner, his Spouse, who died 2d Dec. 1750, aged 40 years; and their Daughter, Margaret, died 1832, aged 82 years. Also, Alexander Innes, Plasterer, their Grandson, who died 10th October 1841, aged 71 years.

---

Sacred to the memory of Helen Susanna Valder, Spouse of James Davidson, Printer in Banff, who died 2d July 1823, aged 46 years; and their Son, George Robert Davidson, who died 2d June 1812, aged 10 years.

Hic situs est, Jacobus Winchester, Communis Banffie Clericus, qui obiit 24 Martii, anno Dom. reg. pivi filius, 1440.

[We have data for believing that the above James Winchester was the ancestor of the Bailie Winchester who bequeathed, by deed of mortification, of certain means which enabled the Magistrates of Banff to institute the Town Bursaries for the education of three Boys at the Grammar School.]

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In memory of Elspet Coutts, daughter of Francis Coutts, residing in Banff, who died 21 June 1843, aged 28 years, and of Jean Bruce, his spouse, who died 25th August 1845, aged 58 years. Francis Coutts died 17th Nov. 1860, aged 73 years.

[One of the present Bailies of the burgh, Mr William Coutts, solicitor, and agent for the Aberdeen Town and County Bank, is the representative of this family.]

I observe six small tablets with these short inscriptions, viz. :—

1610.—W. C. M. V. M. A. L. G. ; 1611.—G. G. I. B. M. S. ; also, Patricius Chalmers, Clericus Vincit, 1592 ; and James Fife and Marjory Gordon, 1664 ; and John Gordon and Janet Saunders, 20 Augustus 1668 ; also, J.A.M.E.S. S.H.E.R., 1000.

---

Erected by William Adam, shoemaker in Banff, to the memory of his father, William Adam, some time residenter in Banff, who died 1st December 1796, aged 78 years ; also, of his sister, Janet, who died 6th September 1798, aged 28 years.

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In conclusion, although I have examined and scrutinised the greater part of the monuments and tombstones in the churchyard, and raked up the memories of the dead, as far as my own memory will support me in bringing into light their characteristics, for the information of the living, and of those more immediately connected with the departed, the effacing hand of time rendering it impracticable to decipher many of the most ancient tablets of centuries gone by, pertaining to families now extinct, still I have to apologise for many omissions in my progress through this interesting mortuary field. And, truly, the work itself is a chilling one. The contents of these sad records of mortality—the vain sorrows which they preserve—the stern lessons which they teach of the nothingness of humanity, the ground which they so closely cover, and their melancholy tenor, cast a gloom, indescribable, over the mind, and remind us of the “roll of the prophet, which was written within and without ; and there was written therein lamentation and mourning.” I have, however, done my best for the satisfaction of those interested, and

the record clearly shows that we have had, even within the compass of our memory, many learned and meritorious fellow-citizens claiming a place among the worthies of old. Had I been a younger man, I should have thought little of copying every readable tablet in the churchyard. For the present, I shall, however, bid adieu to the

Home of the dead! the last abiding place  
Of earthly greatness—intellectual grace—  
Of youthful loveliness, of moral worth,  
Of human frailty too—the same cold earth  
Doth form your narrow bed; and the same sod  
Shall cover me, till summon'd to our God!



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